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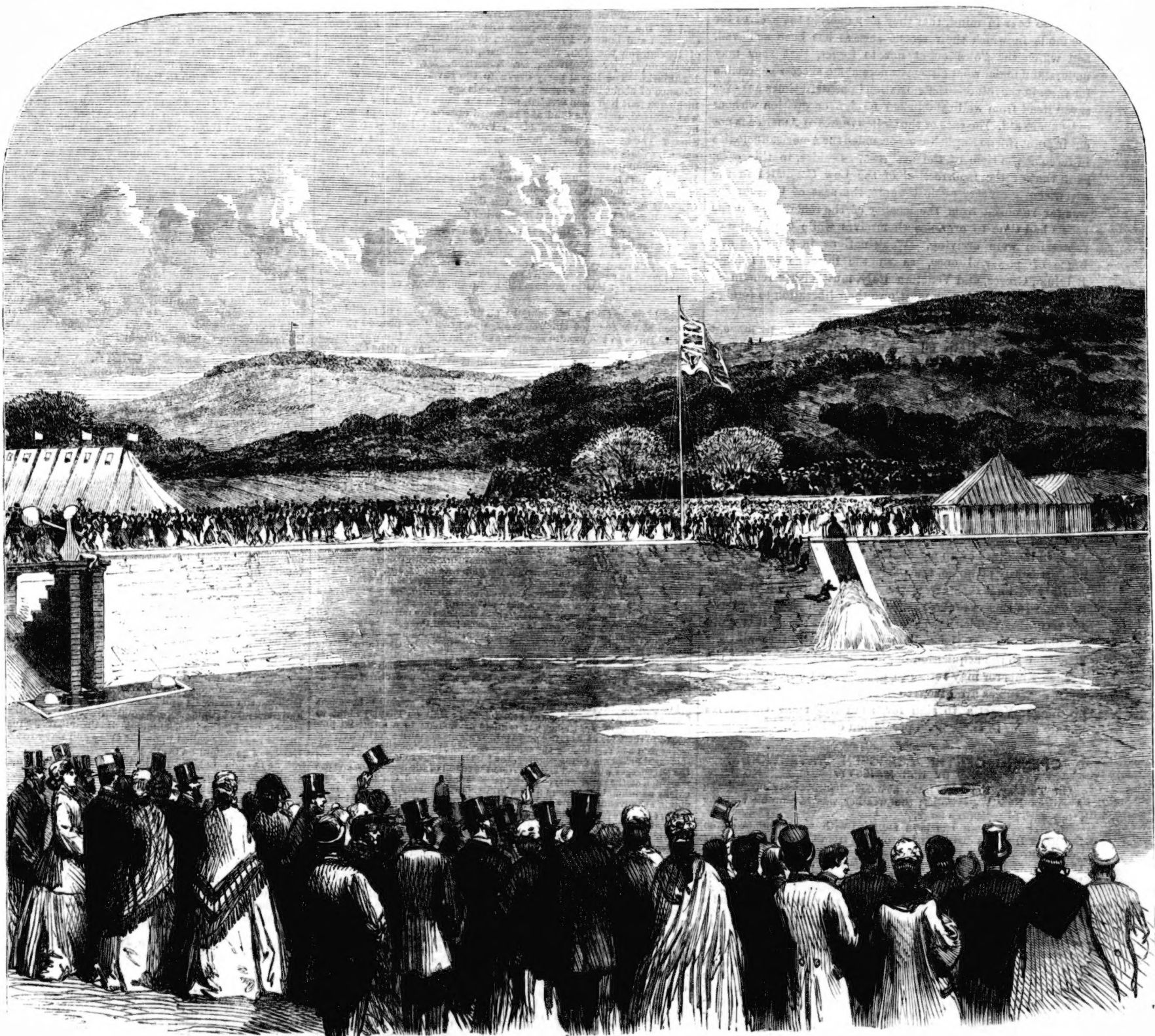
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THE LIBERATION OF VENETIA.

AMONG the many extraordinary events that have taken place on the Continent during the last three months, none more remarkable, and none more unexpected by those who laid special claim to the character of being well informed, has occurred than the cession of Venetia. Ever since the formation of the kingdom of Italy, and, above all, since its enlargement by the annexation of Naples, it has been evident that the Venetians would sooner or later join their fate to that of the Italians united under the rule of Victor Emmanuel; but the inevitable result has been brought about sooner than could have been anticipated, and in a manner which, certainly, no one foresaw. The great difficulty in the Venetian question, when regarded from the Italian point of view, was, in 1859, that Prussia seemed quite disposed to make the retention of the province by Austria a point for all Germany to uphold. Whatever may

have been the motive, the doctrine at that time professed by Prussia was that the possession of Venetia by a German Power was essential to the strength and safety of the Confederation. Probably, Prussia did not care to see Austria beaten by France, who, to judge by what took place in the case of liberated Lombardy, would not have helped to drive the Austrians from the formidable Quadrilateral without requiring something for her trouble. Thus Prussia would have lost by the liberation of Venetia, in so far that her great rival on the other side of the Rhine would have gained by it. As it is, however, France in no way profits by the cession. Austria, with inconceivable, because utterly impolitic, shabbiness, made the province over to Napoleon III., who had not asked her for it; but the Emperor does not profit, even in a moral point of view, by the temporary acquisition. On the contrary, he has excited the ill-will of the more sensitive, irritable, and, perhaps we ought to add, unreasonable, portion

of the Italian population by accepting the gift. This gift must have been intended as a very significant pledge of friendship on the part of Austria, and was probably meant as an invitation to France to come into the Austro-Prussian dispute on the Austrian side. Perhaps it would have been impossible to make the cession of Venetia in a direct manner to Italy; for, by the Prusso-Italian treaty of alliance, Italy was no more at liberty to terminate her military action in an independent manner than Prussia would have been had Austria shown herself willing to agree to all that the enemy demanded in Germany. Austria, in short, finding it impossible to detach Italy from her alliance with Prussia, thought she might as well make use of Venetia as a sop with which to conciliate France. But it is to herself and to Prussia that Italy owes the province which she has so much desired to possess, and which has desired so much to be possessed by her since the first creation of the present Italian kingdom, now seven years



THE ABERDEEN NEW WATER-WORKS AT INVERCANNIE.

ago. At the last moment it may be said that there was a competition and something like a struggle as to which Power should have the honour or the advantage of giving Italy the long-coveted territory; while Italy herself seemed very much inclined to turn sulky and refuse the magnificent present altogether, for the insufficient reason that she did not owe it to her own exertions alone!

On this point Italy—now the spoilt child of Europe, formerly one of its most oppressed—ought to feel no false shame. There is not one liberated nation in Europe at this moment—and there are a good many of them scattered about in one place and another—that owes its freedom to its own unaided efforts. Greece might have struggled for an indefinite time against the Turks; nothing would have come of it but massacres and continued oppression. The kingdom of Greece, as it now exists, owes its independent life to the intervention of France, Russia, and England; and, without the guarantee of those Powers, would no doubt have been seized upon anew by its old masters and swallowed up long ago. The kingdom of Belgium, as the Belgians have taken many opportunities of proclaiming to the world of late, was constituted under the patronage and protection of France, and England. France wished to save the Catholics of Belgium and the French-speaking Belgians in general from the tyranny, real or alleged, of the Dutch Government; and England thought, if the separation *was* to take place, that it ought to be hastened, and that the Belgians ought to have a kingdom of their own, secured on the basis of formal guarantees. Moldavia and Wallachia, or Roumania, as the united provinces are now styled, would not have effected their emancipation little by little from the Turkish yoke but for the support given to them by the principal European Powers: now by the Russians, on the ground of the Roumans being their co-religionists; now by France and England, in order to counteract the possibly too great effect of Russian protection. From motives partly interested, partly disinterested, the Great Powers of Europe have often interfered to save the oppressed from their oppressors; and it is a remarkable fact—which the Italians ought to bear in mind, that they may console themselves for the mode in which their recent success has been achieved, and which the Poles ought not to forget, that they may understand under what circumstances alone success is possible for them in the future—that no nation in modern times has ever saved itself from well-established foreign occupation without extraneous aid. The case of the United States of America is not one in point; for no English army occupied the American colonies in force at the time of the outbreak. Besides, in this case, as in that of the insurrection of the Low Countries in the seventeenth century against Spain, the seat of Government was far removed from the locality of the rebellion, and the rebels had time to organise themselves while the armies of repression were arriving. Weak nations in the close embrace of powerful ones, as in the instance of Poland, Belgium, Greece, and Venetian Italy, must either remain in their helpless position or must owe their liberation to foreign co-operation.

To complete the unity, and we may add the permanent independence, of Italy, all that now remains to be done is to Italianise, in a true sense, the Government of Rome. The only foreign troops that occupy any portion of Italy at present (the few Austrians who have not yet retired from the Venetian strongholds need scarcely be counted) are those comprising the Roman garrison. In a few weeks, if the Convention of September, 1864, is fairly executed, the French troops will retire, but on the distinct understanding that no attempt is made by the Italian Government to replace them. What will then happen? If the Holy Father, in his character of temporal chief, is left to his own people, they will make short work of his power. Nor is it by any means certain that, in the event of no national movement being commenced spontaneously at Rome, the party of action in the kingdom of Italy will not rush across the frontier and begin it themselves. In that case the French will have a plausible excuse for returning. But they have not gone yet; and it is quite possible—now that the Italians must evidently turn all their attention to the acquisition of their natural capital—that the French Emperor may refuse to execute the Convention unless fresh guarantees are given to him that the Italians, having no longer Venetia to sigh for, shall not show themselves unduly eager to enter upon possession of Rome.

OPENING OF THE ABERDEEN WATERWORKS BY HER MAJESTY.

On Tuesday, the 16th inst., at noon, her Majesty opened the Aberdeen New Waterworks; the weather was favourable and the attendance of spectators large.

Hitherto Aberdeen has been supplied with water pumped from the River Dee, at a distance of two miles from the city. For many years, however, the supply thus obtained has been far from meeting the wants of the steadily-growing population; and, though various projects have at sundry times been discussed to remedy the shortcoming, it was not till Sir Alexander Anderson, the present Lord Provost, entered upon office, that any really practical steps, beyond a bill being prepared in draught, were taken in the matter. In 1862 the police commissioners, headed by the Provost, set themselves in earnest to the work of obtaining a new Police and Water Act, and, succeeding in their labours, the splendid undertaking recently opened is the result. Plans of the works having been got from Mr. James Simpson, C.E., London, estimates were in due time lodged; and the offer of a young and enterprising townsman, Mr. Edwin Gibb, being the lowest and otherwise satisfactory, was accepted. Mr. Gibb contracted to bring 6,000,000 gallons of water daily, by means of gravitation, from the River Dee at Cairnron, twenty-two miles from the city, for the sum of £103,999, the works to be finished in two years and a half. On April 8, 1864, Sir Alexander Anderson cut the first sod of the undertaking in the presence of the police commissioners and a large number of the public, and since that time the work has been carried on uninterruptedly with great spirit. With the exception of a tunnel at Hill of Cairnron, 760 yards in length, the engineering difficulties of the scheme were not of any great

magnitude. This tunnel, however, composed of solid rock, proved a formidable obstacle in the way—all the more so that its dimensions being but 5 ft. by 4, only one man could handle the boring jumper at a time. Night and day Mr. Gibb kept men at work in the tunnel from opposite sides of the hill, and though from the hardness of the whinstone not more than from 6 to 8 inches of progress could be made daily, yet the full 760 yards have been satisfactorily accomplished within the prescribed period. At Invercannie, about a mile from the river intake, the first and principal reservoir is built. This huge basin measures 450 ft. in diameter at the top, 390 ft. at the bottom, is 15 ft. in depth, and will hold 15,000,000 gallons of water. Great care has been bestowed in the construction of this important part of the undertaking. From Invercannie to the second reservoir, placed within a couple of miles of the city, the water is mainly conducted through an oval-formed brick aqueduct, 3 ft. 9 in. by 3 ft. 3 in. in size. The fall throughout the twenty miles of aqueduct is 2 ft. per mile, giving a velocity of 21 in. per second. The second, or lower service, reservoir is capable of containing the calculated daily requirement of 6,000,000 gallons. From this point to the city the stream flows through a 27 in. iron pipe, the allowance per head, according to the present population, being about eighty gallons. As already mentioned, the plans of the undertaking were furnished by Mr. Simpson, the eminent London water engineer; and, advised by that gentleman, the works have been carried to completion under the personal superintendence of his able assistant, Mr. Robert Anderson, C.E.

Graciously according to the wishes of the commissioners of police, with whom lies the duty of seeing to the sanitary welfare of the city, her Majesty intimated her pleasure to preside at the opening of the waterworks, fixing the ceremony to take place at Invercannie, twenty-two miles distant from Aberdeen, and a convenient morning drive of thirty miles from Balmoral. The commissioners made their arrangements accordingly, and issued invitations on a liberal scale to their fellow-citizens to be present at the opening and partake of luncheon afterwards.

The morning broke beautifully; and, as the Deeside Railway Company ran trains to Banchory from eight o'clock onwards, and the people of the district about Invercannie turned out in considerable numbers, between 4000 and 5000 spectators were assembled round the scene of opening early in the forenoon. Among the public bodies present from the city, in addition to the police commissioners, were the magistrates and town council, Shoremaster Nicol and the harbour commissioners, Convener Berry, and the members of the incorporated trades. Invercannie being situated in Kincardineshire, the artillery and rifle volunteers of that county, under the command of Major Mackinroy, Captain Crombie, Lieutenant Gordon, and Ensign Burnett, formed the guard of honour, and took up their position in the immediate vicinity of the place appointed for the inauguration.

Punctual to time, the Queen arrived from Balmoral at a temporary station on the grounds of Inchmarlo very shortly after twelve o'clock. Here her Majesty was received by Sir James Burnett, Lord Lieutenant of the county; Sheriff Shaird; and Mr. Davidson, lord of the manor. Her Majesty was accompanied by Princesses Christian and Louisa, Prince Arthur, Prince Christian, the Duchess of Roxburghe the Hon. Miss Cathcart, General Grey, Sir Stafford Northcote, Major Ponsonby, Dr. Robertson, Mr. Sahl, &c., from Inchmarlo. The Royal party drove to the Invercannie reservoir, a distance of about half a mile. Close beside the reservoir an elegantly-furnished tent had been erected, and in the front of this her Majesty was received, amid the loud and repeated cheering of the spectators, by Sir Alexander Anderson (Lord Provost), the Earl of Kintore, Sheriff Thomson, and the members of the public bodies already named. The Rev. Mr. Hutchinson, minister of the parish where the proceedings took place, having offered up a suitable prayer, the Lord Provost read an appropriate address to her Majesty, on the conclusion of which the Queen, speaking in public in her official capacity for the first time since the death of the Prince Consort, addressing Sir Alexander and his brother commissioners, said:—

I thank you for your dutiful address, and am very sensible of this fresh mark of the loyal attachment of my neighbours, the people of Aberdeen. I have felt that, at a time when the attention of the country has been so anxiously directed to the state of the public health, it was right that I should make an exertion to testify my sense of the importance of a work so well calculated as this to promote the health and comfort of your ancient city.

Her Majesty then, advancing to an ingenious piece of machinery erected at the edge of the reservoir, was graciously pleased to give several turns to the handle thereof, and in an instant the water came dashing forth pure and plentiful; then rung out again the cheers of the spectators, and the Queen declared the Aberdeen Waterworks open.

Her Majesty then entered the marquee, where refreshments had been laid for the Royal party, and, after a stay of a few minutes, drove off, amid renewed acclamation. Immediately on the Queen quitting Invercannie, nearly 500 of the ladies and gentlemen who had been present at the opening proceeded to a large tent placed in an adjacent field and partook of luncheon.

Sir A. Anderson presided, with Mr. Dean, of Guild Bothwell, as principal croupier; and the company, having joined the chairman and the croupier in the loyal and other toasts suitable to the occasion, after an agreeable meeting of an hour's duration, broke up, the whole proceedings passing off most successfully.

MORAL PROGRESS OF NEW SOUTH WALES.—The colonial returns for 1864 show that in that year the Government of New South Wales contributed £105,220 in aid of education, being at the high rate of 5s. 4d. per head of population. There were in that year 1020 schools in New South Wales, and 48,378 children attending them; the population approaching 400,000. 452 of the schools, with 9684 scholars, were private schools, of course not participating in the Government grant. There were also the university and two colleges, with forty-nine students among them; and there were 539 Sunday schools, with 30,102 children attending them. The number of registered ministers of religion was 411; of places of worship, 1290. One third of the attendance on religious services was at the Protestant Episcopal churches (Church of England), above a fifth at Roman Catholic churches, the residue being shared among the Wesleyans, Presbyterians, and other Nonconformists.

LONDON SOCIETY OF COMPOSITORS.—A meeting, attended by about fifteen hundred compositors, was held in Exeter Hall on Tuesday night, to consider the answer of the master printers of London to a memorial presented to them for an advance of wages. This memorial set forth that the prices paid had been nearly the same for fifty-six years, notwithstanding the increased prosperity of the country, the advances made in other trades, and the advantages which had accrued from the repeal of the Stamp Act and the remission of the paper duty. Agitation was commenced ten months ago, chiefly on behalf of the job and book printers, whose leading objects are to obtain an advance of one halfpenny per thousand on all descriptions of work, exclusive of newspapers, to secure the abolition of what is known in the trade as the low rate, namely, 3s. per week, and to establish a minimum rates of 36s. per week of not more than fifty-eight hours. Corresponding advantages are sought in the various details of compositors' work. The masters have stated their willingness to agree to the minimum wages of 36s. per week, and to give the advance subject to the condition of their being permitted to open the scale, and to make certain revisions. This was the stage at which the question came before the meeting on Tuesday evening. Mr. C. Henley presided, and was accompanied on the platform by Mr. Self (the secretary) and a very numerous body of supporters. Mr. Lee, Mr. White, and Mr. Grant, in the course of addresses to the meeting, stated that the masters were disposed to meet them fairly in conference, and suggested that a committee should be appointed by the meeting to discuss the question at issue with the employers, and to settle the terms. Mr. Borer submitted as an amendment, "That, taking into consideration the time that had already elapsed and the consultations that had taken place, the committee should have power to make no other concession than one affecting reprints, and should be charged to state that on and after the second Monday in November the memorial would take effect." This proposition was received with loud cheers. While they in London had been talking, Mr. Borer added, the men in the provinces had been doing, and an advance had been obtained in Leeds, Edinburgh, and eleven other large towns. He recommended them, therefore, not to lose the present opportunity. Mr. Smythe seconded the amendment; and after some remarks by Mr. Foster, it was put to the meeting, and was carried with enthusiasm and almost unanimously, nearly every man's hand being held up in its favour. It was likewise agreed that when the memorial had been finally settled a committee should be formed to confer on the opening of the scale.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The Emperor Napoleon, with the Empress and Prince Imperial, reached St. Cloud on Sunday night. The Emperor's return to Paris has revived the rumours of his intention to deprive the Legislature of the right of presenting the usual Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, and thereby preventing the only opportunity the Opposition have of discussing the policy of the Government. The Emperor and Empress took a drive on Tuesday in the Bois de Boulogne, and, on this, their first public appearance in Paris for some months, met with a warm reception by the crowds frequenting the park. The semi-official prints deny the accuracy of the rumours of Ministerial changes which are current.

The Council of State has been instructed to frame a bill for the reorganisation of the army. The meeting of the Legislature, which had been arranged for the beginning of December, is now, it appears, to be postponed to the usual time—the end of January or the beginning of February.

SPAIN.

Royal decrees have been issued reforming the organisation and functions of the municipalities and provincial administrations, and dissolving the provincial deputations, on the ground that the municipalities have become the executive power of the revolutionists. Fresh elections for the provincial deputations are ordered to take place on the 25th of November.

ITALY.

The date for the convocation of Parliament is not yet fixed, but it is believed that it will take place in the early part of December. A Royal decree has been published fixing the number of deputies to be returned to the Italian Parliament from Venetia at fifty. Royal decrees have also been issued appointing Senator Pasolini Italian Commissioner at Venice, the Duke di Verdura at Verona, and Deputy Guicciardi at Mantua.

GERMANY.

The electoral law for the new German Parliament and the treaty of alliance between the States composing the North German Confederation and the duchies of Mecklenburg have been promulgated at Berlin.

It is semi-officially stated that the proclamation for the election and convocation of the German Parliament will not be issued until after the Session of the Prussian Chambers. In consequence, however, of proposals which have been made to the Government for the introduction of the Prussian Constitution into the newly-acquired States, the Prussian Chambers will probably be convoked in extraordinary Session before Oct. 1, 1867.

The treaty of peace between Prussia and Saxony was ratified, on Wednesday, at Toplitz, whither the King of Saxony had repaired for the purpose. Saxony is to pay to Prussia a war compensation of 10,000,000 thalers, and the Saxon army is to be dissolved. The command of the fortress of Königsstein was handed over to the Prussian General Briesen on Wednesday. The Saxon troops are placed under the command of the new Governor, and the officials continue in the exercise of their functions. The Saxon artillerymen of the garrison remain; but the infantry, who have been relieved by the Prussian troops, go to Pillnitz.

Baden wants to be under the wing of Prussia. A Committee of the Chamber of Deputies urges that every effort should be made to bring South Germany into the North German Confederation. They urge that until this can be accomplished the commercial and military institutions of Baden should be assimilated to those of Prussia, and that in case of war an alliance should be made with Prussia.

A Royal decree has been issued ordering the conscription in the duchies of Schleswig and Holstein from the 1st of January, 1867, in conformity with the regulations of the Prussian military system.

AUSTRIA.

Baron von Beust will, in all probability, be very shortly appointed Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs. Count Nati Oppizzone, the new Italian Plenipotentiary, has arrived in Vienna.

The war-steamers Elisabeth has received orders from the Ministry of War to sail immediately for Mexico.

Cardinal Sztowski, Prince Primate of Hungary, died on the 19th, at Gran. He was born in November, 1785, and was the son of a village schoolmaster. In 1827 he was consecrated Bishop, and in 1849 was appointed Archbishop and Prince Primate of Hungary. He received the Cardinal's hat in 1853.

CRETE.

The Vienna papers publish the following intelligence from Constantinople, dated the 19th inst.:—"The Cretans have made an attempt to set fire to the Turkish fleet off Candia. The province of Selino has been evacuated by the Turks. The Cretan insurgents are said to have murdered an envoy bearing a flag of truce sent by Kirili Pacha."

The Greek Consul in London has received an official despatch from his Government in reference to the Cretan insurrection. It is, in effect, a statement that the main body of the Turks had, after long and arduous fighting, been driven back by the insurgents.

HOLLAND.

The King of Holland has got into a feud with his Parliament, and has dissolved it on the ground that government is impossible in conjunction with such perverse gentlemen. The cause of quarrel is the administration of the island of Java, with respect to which a difference of opinion exists between the Executive and the Legislature. A general election is accordingly about to take place, to determine on which side the nation is.

THE UNITED STATES.

We have intelligence from New York to the 11th instant. The contention between the Radical and the Democratic parties still continued; but the former had been most successful in the elections. The Republicans, however, had carried the Pennsylvania elections by a reduced majority. Iowa, Ohio, and Indiana had also voted the Republican ticket. Several riots occurred at Philadelphia between the Radicals and Democrats during the late election canvass, and several persons were wounded. General Butler had made a speech urging the impeachment of President Johnson and stating that if the latter called upon the army and navy to assist him against Congress he would be disobeyed.

The Oregon Legislature had annulled their former ratification of the Constitutional amendment.

A Fenian delegation had visited President Johnson and again urged the withdrawal of Mr. Adams and the American Consuls in Ireland. The delegation retired dissatisfied with the results of the interview.

SOUTH AMERICA.

The Brazilian mail brings us details of the capture by the allies of the fort of Curuzu, a stronghold on the river Paraguay. The Brazilians put their own losses down at a much lower figure than those of their enemy. One of their ironclads was blown up by a torpedo, and the commander and a large number of the crew shared the fate of the vessel.

THE IRISH CONVICT SYSTEM.—Many suggestions have been thrown out during the last three weeks as to the future management of the Irish convict system, amongst which is the formation of a board consisting of a chairman and two sub-directors. Such an arrangement would, no doubt, have been suitable at one time when our convict class was numerous, but when we bear in mind that our convict population has so diminished as to render necessary the closing of several convict jails, leaving the few existing ones almost empty, it appears to us an injustice to saddle the public treasury with the payment of pri on officials for whom there is no employment now. At no time, perhaps, in the history of Ireland did our adult criminals rate so low as at the present time; and when we consider the vast amount of money the country is called upon to pay for directors, inspectors, governors, superintendents, chaplains, doctors, schoolmasters, and warders employed in the Irish convict service, it is but common justice to appeal against any further appointments which can only be made for party purposes.—*Freeman's Journal*.

GENERAL VON MOLTKE.

No I. of the new series of *Duheim* contains a description of an interview between their correspondent and the Prussian General von Moltke, the strategist of the Bohemian campaign. His portrait, which accompanies the article in question, is anything but prepossessing, bearing, as it does, a strong resemblance to Frederick the Great. The features, however, are, if possible, more iron-like than those of the King, and they, together with his tall and erect figure, give one the impression that nature intended him to command. The General is sixty-six years old, though the deep furrows which mark his face make him look much older; indeed, they are so deep and hard as to give his face the appearance of being cut out of a block of marble. It appears he received his visitor in his study—a large but plainly-furnished apartment, decorated with the engraved portraits of the Royal family of Prussia and of the chief officers of the army. Being politely informed that the motive of the visit was to obtain some memoranda about himself for the instruction of the public, the General's iron features relaxed into a momentary smile, and he good-naturedly complied with the request by the following statement:—

Belonging to an old Mecklenburg family, he was born in that principality in the year 1800, though soon after his birth his father bought some property in Holstein, where he settled. Here young Moltke was educated until he reached the age of twelve, when he, together with his elder brother, was sent to the academy for military cadets at Copenhagen. Without either a friend or relation in this strange town, the two boys passed what he himself calls a joyless childhood; their treatment was harsh in the extreme, while, moreover, they had to bear many privations. In 1822 young Moltke, after having passed a rigorous examination, entered the Prussian army as Sub-Lieutenant in the 8th Regiment of Infantry, which happened to be stationed at Frankfurt-on-the-Oder. He there met a distant relative, a Countess Moltke, married to General Marwitz, his prototype for strict discipline, united to perfect politeness. Lieutenant von Moltke visited the military school at Berlin at a time when the war and other casualties had almost ruined his parents, who therefore were unable to give him the slightest assistance in addition to his pay. Having, however, been inured to penury and privation in early life, his scanty pay not only sufficed for his wants, but he even saved enough to defray the expenses incurred by learning modern languages. By his undertaking the supervision of the military school, and by his being attached to a commission for a topographical survey in Silesia and the grand duchy of Posen, his salary was considerably increased. Having discharged these duties to the satisfaction of his superiors, he soon after obtained his captaincy, and he then remained at a standstill for seven years. These, however, were not passed in the usual monotonous routine; for he spent four years of this time (from 1835 to 1839) in Turkey, where he first appeared in the character of a literary contributor. His travels through Roumelia with the Sultan Mahmoud, at whose command he made plans of Varna, Schumla, Silistria, and other places on the Danube, formed an historical work published some time after under the title of "The Russo-Turkish Campaign from 1828 to 1829." Captain von Moltke also made some drawings of the Dardanelles, Constantinople, and the Bosphorus, which were engraved and much admired. In his letters from Constantinople he gave some valuable information which his intimate acquaintance with the ruler of Turkey and other high dignitaries enabled him to do respecting a country which at that time was almost a sealed book to Germany. Captain von Moltke also undertook the organisation of the Turkish army, in which enterprise he was assisted by four Prussian colleagues. Notwithstanding their united exertions the result proved a failure; for at the battle of Nisil the whole army of Kurds, which had been forcibly recruited, ran away, and a few days afterwards the Turkish fleet went over to the enemy. Although his mission in Turkey was at an end, Captain Moltke still remained a considerable while longer in Asia, in order to improve the defective charts of the country. This survey, which he made on horseback, extended over 1000 miles into regions which no European traveller had hitherto visited, and where, like Xenophon, he and his companions had to navigate the rivers seated on sheepskins inflated by air. His memory richly stored with recollections which would last him for life, Captain von Moltke returned to Europe, and on gaining his next step, as Major, he resolved to lay the foundation for his domestic comfort by marrying Fräulein von Burt, of Holstein. He was, however, not allowed to stay long in Prussia. In 1845 he was sent to Rome as special Aide-de-Camp to Prince Henry of Prussia (uncle to Frederick William IV.), who was then suffering from an incurable disease and whose dissolution was daily expected. The service near the sick Prince being necessarily circumscribed, Major von Moltke had a great deal of spare time, which he devoted to the study of Rome and its environs. His "Contorni di Roma" was engraved and highly commended. Owing to his modesty, however, all he ever wrote, and also his sketches, are published anonymously. During the stormy epoch in 1848, Major Moltke was sent to Magdeburg as chief of the 4th Corps d'Armée. He there remained seven years, during which time he attained the following grades:—In 1850 he became Lieutenant-Colonel; in 1851, Colonel; in 1856, Major-General; and in 1859, Lieutenant-General. Being appointed special Aide-de-Camp to the Crown Prince of Prussia, he came to England to be present at his betrothal to the Princess Royal at Balmoral. After this he stayed a year with him at Breslau, where the Prince commanded the 11th Regiment of Infantry. General von Moltke visited England on two more occasions. The first time to be a witness at the Crown Prince's wedding, and the last time to assist at the funeral of his Royal Highness the lamented Prince Albert.

LOVE'S SACRIFICE.—A story is told of a Prussian officer of cuirassiers who, previously to attending a parade before the King, went to visit his lady-love. During the interview his helmet fell from a table, rolled into the grate, and the horsehair plume was frizzled off. To join his regiment and pass the King wearing a singed helmet and one glistening of horse-tail was utterly impossible, and still less was it possible to absent himself on such a day; every shop in the city of Berlin was closed. Suddenly Romeo's fair Juliet started, seized a pair of scissors, and in a few seconds cut off the whole of her magnificent *chevelure dorée*, and with marvellous ingenuity fastened it to the scorched helmet; and so the warrior rode past his King.

FIRES AT LONDON THEATRES.—The returns of the Fire Brigade show that during the last twenty-eight years there have been eight of the metropolitan theatres burned down—viz., June 8, 1841, Astley's, belonging to Messrs. Ducrow and West; Nov. 4, 1846, Garrick Theatre, belonging to Messrs. Conquest and Gommersall, in Leman-street; March 29, 1849, Olympic Theatre, belonging to Mr. Davidson and Captain Spicer; July 27, 1853, the Islington Circus, when seven horses and eleven dogs were burned to death; Feb. 13, 1856, the Pavilion Theatre, Whitechapel; March 5 (same year), Covent Garden Theatre; Jan. 30, 1865, Surrey Theatre; and last Sunday morning the Standard Theatre. The causes of each fire to this day remain unknown.

DESTRUCTION OF THE STANDARD THEATRE BY FIRE.

On Sunday morning, a few minutes before six o'clock, a fire was discovered at the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and, in spite of every exertion to stop the progress of the flames, spread so rapidly that in a brief period the entire building was reduced to a heap of smoking ruins. Within a very brief period after the alarm was given Captain Shaw and a strong body of the London Fire Brigade were on the scene of disaster, while engine after engine arrived until something like twenty surrounded the building; but for nearly three quarters of an hour their presence was utterly useless, from the usual *laches* of the water company in failing to keep a supply of water in the mains on Sunday. There was a large tank of water, containing 400 cubic feet, on the main beams of the building, with hose attached and ready on each side of the stage; but so rapidly did the conflagration extend that, before the brigade men could avail themselves of this supply, the tank became enveloped in flames, and fell with a spluttering crash as the beams burnt through, scarcely producing any effect on the fire. As soon as a supply of water could be obtained from the mains, the engines got to work, and poured such a deluge on the burning mass of building that it appeared, for a brief period, as if some little pro-

gress was being made in checking the flames. It soon became evident, however, that the fire had got too firm a hold; and when, bursting through the roof in a dozen places at once, a column of flame shot high into the air, the firemen turned their attention to saving some houses in Holywell-lane, that for a time were in imminent danger. Within an hour the whole area of the building, extending from George-street on the east to near Holywell-lane on the west, and from Shoreditch on the north to the North London Railway on the south, was one mass of flame; and at a little past seven o'clock the roof fell amid an explosion of sparks, and the destruction of the building was practically complete. The efforts of the firemen were successful preventing the fire extending to the houses in Shoreditch and Holywell-lane, though for a time the latter buildings were seriously menaced.

The fire was first discovered by a policeman on duty, and when seen appeared to have arisen in the neighbourhood of the dressing-rooms, over the stage entrance in George-street. The cause of the fire, in all probability, will never be discovered. The performance concluded on Saturday evening at the usual hour, a little before midnight, and the building was apparently in perfect safety when the company left, shortly after. Indeed, the theatre must have been safe much later, for the fireman of the establishment did not leave till two a.m. on Sunday morning; while the housekeeper, who was the last person to leave the building, was engaged for an hour later in clearing up for the Sunday services which were held in the theatre. When she left, passing through that portion of the building in which the fire is supposed to have originated, there was nothing to excite the least suspicion of the impending catastrophe.

The Standard Theatre, when it first came under the management of Mr. Douglass, had very little to recommend it to public support. Under his liberal direction it speedily rose in the estimation of East-End playgoers, whose patronage enabled him, some twelve or thirteen years since, to reconstruct it on a scale that gave it a claim to be considered one of the finest theatres in London. Since that time repeated additions and improvements have been made, until, at the time of its destruction, it was considered to approach more nearly the high standard of comfort and convenience attained in American theatres than any similar building in this country. A large stone staircase had just been completed, solely for the purpose of giving ample means of egress in the event of the sad calamity which has just occurred happening while the performances were going on and when the theatre was filled with spectators. Immediately on an alarm of fire being given when an audience was present, doors opening outward from pit, boxes, and gallery would have admitted of access to this stone staircase, and the theatre could have been emptied, independently of the ordinary means of entrance and exit, in a very few seconds. Inclosing this staircase, which extended back to the railway arches, was a "dock" filled with valuable scenery. This building and its contents have shared the fate of the theatre. All that remains is part of the roof, which hangs down, blackened and distorted, by the side of the railway. Another recent addition to the theatre was the row of houses in George-street, which had been converted into dressing-rooms and offices. Of these only one solitary dressing-room has survived the general ruin. The only other portion of the building which has escaped is the handsome entrance from Shoreditch, which, together with the boxes, was in process of being laid with beautiful tessellated pavement. A very few days would have seen the completion of alterations, additions, and embellishments which have been in progress for the last four months.

Since the opening of the season, at the commencement of the present month, the company have been engaged in preparations for the burlesque of "Der Freischütz," which was produced on Saturday night, with unprecedented success. The reception accorded to the new piece was so enthusiastic that Mr. Douglass, after receiving the congratulations of his company, told the carpenters that they might go on with their preparations for the pantomime, for it would not be necessary to "change the bill" till Christmas. With this pleasant reflection Mr. Douglass retired to his residence at Dalston, from which he was summoned at half-past six in the morning by the news that the theatre, on which he had spent so many thousands in reconstructing, improving, and beautifying, was in flames. Returning at once by the cab which brought this intelligence, he reached the theatre just in time to see the roof fall in and witness the final destruction of the valuable property that he had rejoiced in a few short hours before. Mr. Douglass is partially insured, but not to nearly the amount of the loss he has incurred. By running very serious risks to life and limb, the detachment of the new salvage corps that was present succeeded in saving a few ladies' dresses. With this trifling exception, the wardrobes of the actors and actresses and the properties of the establishment have been utterly destroyed. The zeal of some of the members of the company had led them to have made at their own expense handsome dresses to ensure the success of the new burlesque.

One of the most melancholy reflections in connection with this sad event is the fact that so many industrious persons are hopelessly thrown out of work at the very commencement of what promised to be a most prosperous season. The engagements with the dramatic artists only commenced on the 1st of October. As most of the engagements at other theatres are now completed for the season, the chance of employment is unfortunately sufficiently remote, and, even if it offered, many would be unable to accept it on account of the loss of their dresses. Some idea of the number who are thus suddenly deprived of the means of subsistence may be gathered from the statement that 140 persons were on the stage at one time during the representation of the burlesque, and that to these must be added, to get the entire muster-roll of the employés, the carpenters, musicians, and odd men who always find something to do in theatres. The carpenters have lost their tools, the musicians their instruments and music. To add to the effect of the first night's representation of "Der Freischütz" there was an extra German band engaged, who unfortunately left their instruments in the theatre. One man who had lost a bass viol, which he valued at £50, wandered round the ruins on Sunday in despair, and refused to be comforted by the reflection that he had prudently effected an insurance on it to the extent of £25. It is much to be feared that this wise prudence of the poor German has but very few imitators amongst the many sufferers by the destruction of "The Great National Standard Theatre." Under these circumstances, no doubt a similar appeal will have to be made to that which was so generously responded to by the public two years since, when the Surrey Theatre was burned down. We have much satisfaction in recording the fact that Mr. Shepperd, of the Surrey, has already handed over £50, which had remained in his hands after meeting all claims on account of the catastrophe in his own theatre.

On Tuesday evening a meeting was held at the Primrose Tavern, Bishopsgate Ward, for the purpose of devising the best means of alleviating the distress arising from the above unfortunate occurrence. The chair was occupied by Mr. Stevens, and there was a good attendance of the influential inhabitants of the district, including some gentlemen of the theatrical profession. A list of handsome subscriptions was announced by the chairman, who also stated that Mr. Nelson Lee, of the City of London Theatre, had kindly placed his establishment at the use of Mr. Douglass, who had accepted the same, and arrangements were making for opening the house on Saturday week. Mr. Douglass had most generously signified his intention of paying the female artistes of his establishment their salary until the opening of the City of London. Resolutions were adopted for soliciting the aid of other metropolitan managers.

THE LATE DISTURBANCES IN PALERMO.

It is difficult to obtain accurate information as to the nature and objects of the recent outbreak in Palermo. The movement is said to have been instigated by the priests, and yet to have had adherents among the republican party in the island. Certain it is that democratic cries were uttered by the mob, and that clergymen were mixed up with the affair. Whatever may have been the real designs of the originators of the disturbance, large numbers of disreputable characters availed themselves of the disordered state of society in

order to pursue their usual avocations of rapine and murder. Even now full particulars of the original outbreak are not obtainable. After the arrival of the Royal troops, however, the *émeute* was suppressed, though not without considerable loss of life. Indeed, the more detailed are the reports we receive the greater are the proofs that the loss sustained by the troops was very serious, and that the outbreak was of a character to awaken grave anxiety. One statement declares that more men fell in Palermo than at Custozza, and there can be no doubt that the insurgents fought most desperately. As usual, in all popular tumults among the hot-blooded, ignorant Southerners, acts of revolting atrocity were committed. Many mutilated bodies had been found in the wells of Palermo, women, it is supposed, having been the principal agents of these disgusting acts; while in Misilmeri twenty-eight Guards of Public Security and carabinieri had been murdered in cold blood, and three carabinieri had their eyes gouged. In Bagheria one poor fellow, it is said, was bitten to death by the mob, women again assisting. At the same time, hints are thrown out, even by those who write in a spirit friendly to the Government, that the soldiery carried on their action too indiscriminately, and that the bombardment of the city was continued unnecessarily for a day and a night. A great danger was, however, to be suppressed, and it would be unsafe to criticise too closely the acts of those engaged. As to its having been an enterprise of mere brigands, facts disprove it. Among the combatants were friars, members of the National Guard, many of the bourgeoisie, women, *renitenti*, and brigands; and on the second or third day these were increased by persons of all classes. Indeed, the Mafia, a secret society, is said to include among its members many persons of the elevated class. Palermo is said by the official journals to be tranquil and rejoicing; of course, the lovers of order are, but the truth is that there is great irritation among thousands who assumed smiling faces as the troops entered and received them in triumph. Nor was the disposition to rise confined to Palermo. Some attempt was made at Termini and Altavilla, but that was put down by the energy of two or three determined men of spirit, as it might have been in Palermo. In Messina and Catania placards were found on the walls bearing the inscription "Viva la Repubblica!" but it ended there, unless the re-election of Mazzini at Messina may be regarded as indicative of public feeling. As to discontent and a sentiment of dissatisfaction, they are general both in Southern Italy and Sicily. One devoted to the Government writes from Messina that discontent is perhaps more sensibly felt there than elsewhere; but there is yet faith in the good cause, a not very consoling statement from one of the most loyal cities of the island. There are one or two facts connected with the insurrection which show a lamentable reaction in the feelings of the population. The four most prominent leaders distinguished themselves either in 1848 or 1860, on one or both occasions, by the part they took in the popular cause. Again, it has been deemed prudent to suspend the payment of their pensions to those who fought in 1848 and 1860 until they have been submitted to a severe scrutiny. All this proves disappointment and dissatisfaction, and it behoves the Government to inquire into the causes, as to whether they are removable or not. Meanwhile, great misery, suspension of public works, a bad harvest, and increasingly heavy taxation render the prospect gloomy, and the necessity of sound and energetic action on the part of the Government most urgent.

General Cadorna, the Governor of Palermo, has issued a proclamation with a view to counteract the influence of false alarms and tranquillise the loyal citizens. He pronounces to be absurd the reports that another attempt will be made by the insurgents on the city, speaks of the overwhelming force at his command, and threatens the rigours of the law against evil-disposed alarmists. On this a correspondent remarks:—"Without meaning to say that there is the slightest probability of a repetition of the late deplorable scenes, there are doubtless causes sufficient for anxiety. Among the people who welcomed the troops there were many who took part against them, and more who withheld from them their sympathies; but it is in the country districts where we are rather to look for disturbances and disasters. Sicily is eminently suited to such a guerrilla warfare as is now being carried on, and the bands which are scattered about are formidable from their numbers and from the sympathy which they are sure to meet with in such a priest and friar ridden country. Serious actions are reported to have taken place at Partonico and Alcamo, through which places the bands passed in their flight from Palermo through Monreale, and many wounded soldiers, it is said, have arrived in Palermo. Of course the insurgents, who are driven to the last extremities, will sell their lives dearly; and the Sicilians are not deficient in pluck. There has been an alarm, too, at Catania, in consequence of an attempt on the part of some of the fugitives to enter Aderno, a small town to the north-west; but they were repulsed, or at all events fired upon, by the citizens. It is impossible to speak with precision of what is going on beyond the large towns; for roads there are few, and communication, therefore, difficult. It is clear, however, that the elements of disorder abound in a large and hostile clerical body, lay and regular; in multitudes degraded and corrupted by them for a long series of years; in those who are disappointed in their too sanguine expectations, and in the *canaille* which such a state of society must beget. As may be expected among a vindictive people, the spy and the informer now actively ply their trade, and numerous arrests have been the consequence. General Cadorna has addressed a somewhat menacing letter to the Archbishop of Palermo, in which, without making any decided accusations, he asks him what he had been about that he had not interfered to prevent the collision which had taken place, instead of shutting himself up in his palace. His Eminence replies that it could scarcely be expected for a man close on eighty years of age to approach the barricades and expose himself to certain death; that over the monks, as was well known, from the peculiar ecclesiastical privileges of Sicily, he had no control, while on his clergy he had laboured to impress the principles of the Gospel. If any precise accusation was brought against him he was prepared to answer it. One fact is tolerably evident after the lapse of many days, which is that the insurrectionists had no idea of fighting for the rights of the Bourbons; they were a confused mass, really antagonistic to each other, and united only to throw down without the power or the genius to build up. *Parce sputis*, then, for the Bourbons are really dead and buried as regards the affections either of the Neapolitans or Sicilians."

Arrests are still made, and on a large scale, in Palermo and elsewhere, and among them have been the friars of San Nicolo and the Capuccini of the Piazza dei Greci, in the monastery of which ten muskets were found. Nevertheless, agitation and alarm continue, perhaps, to a certain extent, as a consequence of the extreme rigour which is practised. The number of the prisoners is so large that two assistant military tribunals have been formed, in addition to one which is now in full action. Great exception is taken to them by the party of action, who allege that such tribunals are prohibited by the Constitution, the common law providing for all cases of armed insurrection; but it is difficult to believe that the Government would have ventured on a measure not sanctioned by the highest authority.

That all danger is not yet over seems pretty evident. A correspondent, writing from Naples on the 19th inst., says:—"The reports from Sicily are not of an encouraging character, and that which gives them the colour of truth is the fact that a Commission has been sent to Florence to urge the Government to adopt more energetic measures. Yet Palermo is in a state of siege, and is occupied by 35,000 men. Notwithstanding the presence of such a force, several assassinations in the streets were committed last week, suggested by private vengeance, and the communications with the neighbouring towns are interrupted by roving bands, which are on the increase. Two mails en route to Misilmeri were attacked and robbed, a few days since, and everywhere throughout the province there exists a general sense of insecurity. A person writes from Palermo:—"As you go along the road to Misilmeri, you see the labourers at work quietly enough, especially if a patrol is passing; but after it has passed, should a diligence or a carriage heave in sight, they are all up and armed ready for an attack from behind a cactus or a tree. This little fact completed

THE LATE DISTURBANCES IN PALERMO.



THE ROYAL TROOPS ENTERING THE CITY BY THE PORTE FELICE.

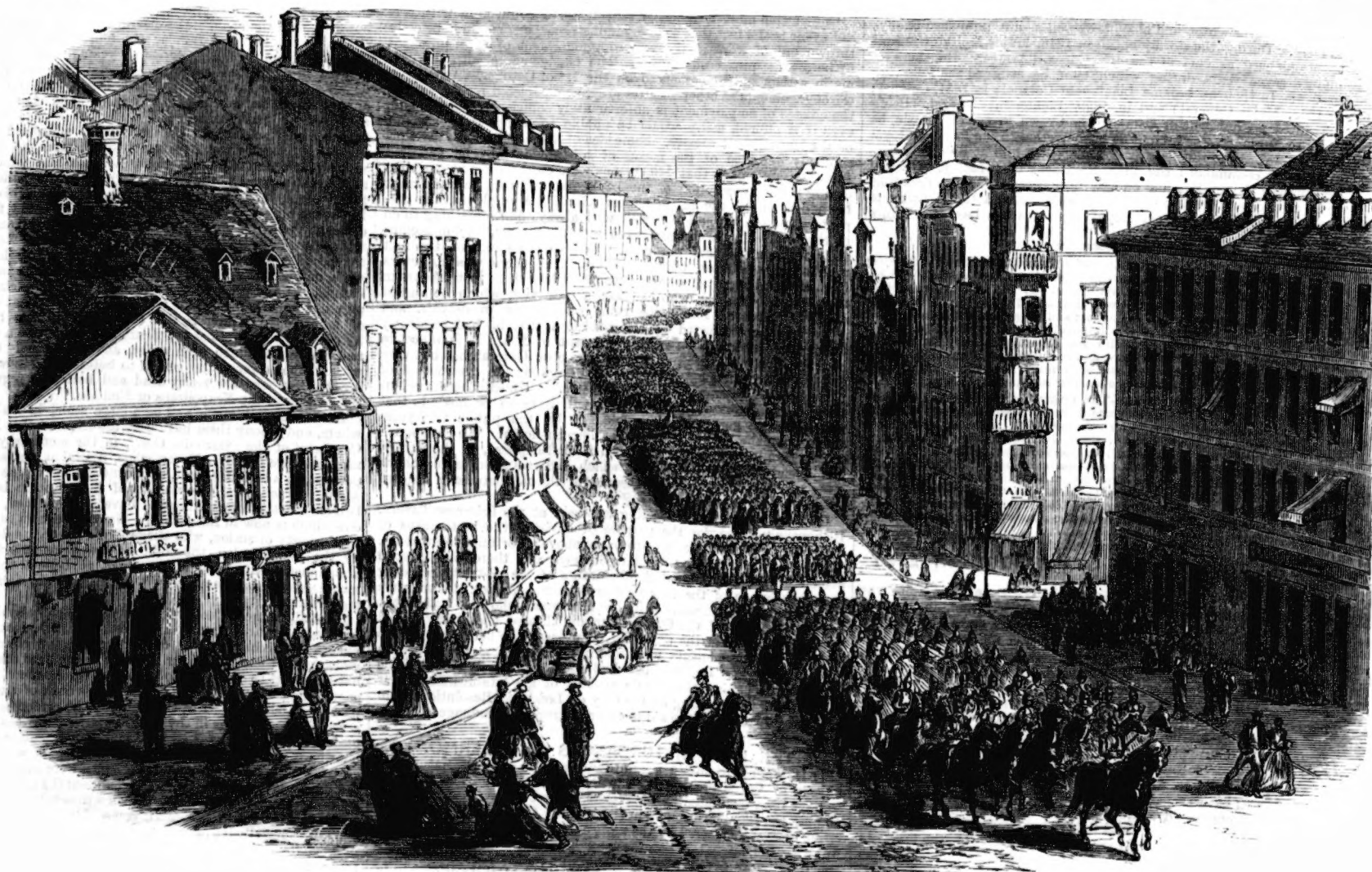
and their arms and plunder concealed, the patrol on its return finds them again hard at work with the *zappa* or *zappone*, as ignorant as babes of what has passed.

"The bands, it is said, are increasing, and a considerable number of the insurgents are hidden in the wood of Ficuzza, which is twenty miles in circuit. Of course they will be hunted out; but, when the nature of the country is considered, in many parts deserted, without roads, or so narrow and difficult as to be scarcely of any value, intersected by large woods or inaccessible rocks, it is easy to perceive that the work of restoring order must be long and difficult. Sanguinary engagements are spoken of, but little is known about them. We may, however, feel assured that men with their backs to a wall will fight desperately. In the city of Palermo some churches as well as convents have been occupied. In Monreale the National Guard has been disbanded and the monastery of the Benedictines occupied by the troops; while in the districts of Carini, Baldi, and Monreale one hundred persons suspected of having taken part in the insurrection have been arrested. General Cadorna has sent in to his Government a second report, confirming all that has been said about the atrocious acts committed by the insurgents, and deeply compromising the religious bodies, monks as well as 'Holy Virgins,' as they are conventionally styled. It must not be forgotten, however, that many were com-



ENCAMPMENT OF INSURGENTS IN THE STREET.

pelled to take part against their will under menace of their lives, and I have heard of those who were compelled to put their names to papers with a pistol at their heads. In a recent letter I informed you that Prince Scaletta had been arrested in Sorrento. It was perfectly true, but, after an examination of his papers, which led to no results, he has been left at liberty under the surveillance of the police. Much of what has happened in Sicily may be regarded as the consequence of the wretched inheritance left by the Bourbons, under whom neither instruction nor roads were provided for the people—under whom law had no authority, the magistrates no independence, and arbitrary power and favoritism governed all things. Whether all this has been changed under the new and Constitutional Government may be more than doubted. Too often it has talked instead of acted; decreed almost impossibilities, without showing the energy necessary to carry them out; and, in the matter of roads, certainly, while laying down magnificent plans for networks of railways, has neglected to form those common roads without which railways are useless, and which would have given an impulse to the commerce and civilisation of the island. By this time the world must be convinced, by the state of Sicily and Southern Italy, that our new rulers would have done well had they given more attention to the consolidation and internal organisation of the various portions of united Italy."



PASSAGE OF THE TROOPS THROUGH THE STREETS OF PALERMO.



SCENE FROM MR. DAYLE BERNARD'S VERSION OF "FAUST," AT DRURY-LANE THEATRE; FAUST'S FIRST SIGHT OF MARGARET.



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RITUALISM.

THE Ritualistic doings of a certain portion of the clergy of the Church of England have recently attracted a large measure of attention, and incurred in some quarters a rather severe amount of censure. The Ritualists almost broke out into rebellion at the Church Congress held last week at York; many of them openly disregard the admonitions of their Bishops, several of whom are even suspected of privately favouring the prevalent innovations; parson is warring against parson; congregations and clergy are coming into open collision, or are suffering from secret alienation; strong language has been employed on both sides; and "S. G. O." and the *Times* have entered the lists, the latter denouncing Ritualism as "pernicious nonsense." Such a state of things in the Church cannot tend to edification of the people. Dissension and bitterness among the shepherds must lead to a dispersion of the flock. Real religious feeling is sure to decline in presence of strife and bickerings among those whose special duty it is to teach "peace on earth and good-will" not only towards, but among, men.

The mischief is likely to be all the greater from the fact that the matters in dispute are *seemingly* of little intrinsic importance. To a superficial thinker, it may appear of no consequence what is the particular colour or fashion of the vestments in which a clergyman arrays himself at certain parts of the church service. But to conclude that this is all that is involved in the dispute would be a great mistake. Were this a mere question of vestments—of ecclesiastical millinery—we, for our part, should abstain from all part in the controversy. We should be content to leave all questions referring merely to albs, and chasubles, and stoles to such femininely-constituted minds as are capable of stooping to the discussion of such matters. But, as behind every shadow there is a substance, so, as we think, serious considerations are wrapped up in the Ritualistic tendencies which have so largely developed themselves in the Church recently.

If we carefully look below the surface, we shall find that a disposition to exalt the priestly office underlies all the parade of vestments and all the posturing and genuflections to which a section of the clergy are so prone; and he has studied history to but little purpose who is not aware that the exaltation of a sacerdotal class and the increase of priestly power mean the curbing—perhaps the annihilation—of intellectual and social freedom among the laity. Popular liberty has never flourished alongside priestly domination; and as the Ritualism of the present day in England has a direct tendency, and is, indeed, designed, to inspire the people with a higher degree of reverence for the spiritual officers of the Church, irrespective of the influence of the doctrines they teach and the exemplar which they afford in their own persons—as, in fact, it is calculated to make the clergy more completely the rulers of the people, we deem it dangerous, and contend that it ought to be resisted. To the legitimate influence of a highly educated and generally morally pure class of men, such as the clergy of the Church of England undoubtedly are, we have not the slightest objection. We even appreciate, and to some extent approve, the desire manifested to make the rites of worship as pleasing and attractive to the people as possible. But we deny that clergymen, or any class whatever, should have the power of dictating religious opinion to their neighbours; and especially do we object to members of the clerical order having the power of enforcing their dictation. Such a power has never yet been possessed but it has been abused. All history teaches this lesson, that, when possessed of power, the priestly is ever a tyrannising or tyranny-abetting order. If power be yielded to the sacerdotal class again, it will be again abused. The Ritualists seek to obtain such a sway. Therefore we say that the Ritualists and Ritualism are dangerous to popular freedom.

If proof were wanting of the fact that, beneath the apparently trivial matters of vestments and ceremonies, this baleful tendency lurks, it is supplied by a country clergyman, who, in vindicating Ritualism, declares that it involves these three "doctrinal statements":—"1. That there are priests in the Church of England. 2. That the priests of the Church of England may hear confessions and give absolution. 3. That the 'memorial' of the death of Christ which the priests of the Church of England make in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist is a 'sacrifice' which they offer, commemoratively, not to man, but to God." It requires no great amount of perspicacity to perceive the consequence of allowing the two first of these doctrines. If we once admit "that there are priests in the Church of England" who "may hear confession and give absolution," we shall speedily have these same priests declaring—as some of

them do even now—that the people *must* make confession to them, and solicit absolution at their hands. We should have the priesthood setting themselves up as the sole medium of communication between the creature and the Creator; we should again have upon our minds all the shackles, in their worst form, of Roman Catholicism; we should, in short, have the work of the Reformation to do over again. This is no trifling or illusory peril. England has suffered from it in the past; other portions of the world are suffering from it now. Let us resist it while we may, and hold fast by our religious liberty; for we may be well assured that religious bondage will inevitably entail social and political slavery.

We trust we have approached this topic in a spirit of becoming gravity and have dealt with it as befits earnest minds in a matter of such moment. We feel strongly upon the subject; and, while bringing no railing accusations, and desiring to curtail no man's freedom, we are profoundly anxious to do what in us lies to vindicate popular liberty of thought, of speech, and of action, on religious as on all other topics.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, with the various members of the Royal family, will, it is expected, leave Balmoral on the 1st of November, and arrive at Windsor Castle on the following day.

THE PRINCE OF WALES will commence his journey to St. Petersburg on Monday, Nov. 5.

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH was made a citizen of Glasgow on Thursday se'night. His Royal Highness made a speech on the occasion. Subsequently the Duke "inaugurated" the statue of the late Prince Consort which has been erected in Glasgow.

THE EMPRESS OF MEXICO, according to a telegram received in London on Monday evening, is much improved in health. The symptoms seem to be considerably ameliorated, giving hopes of ultimate and speedy recovery.

THE KING OF THE BELGIANS, after the review of the English volunteers at Brussels, exclaimed, "They are superb fellows, and their appearance is magnificent!"

THE EARL OF CLARENDON is suffering from a painful cutaneous disease, in addition to impaired sight, and our last accounts are that he is in a very low, nervous condition.

SIR BARTLE FRERE, now Governor of Bombay, has accepted the seat at the Indian Council vacant by the death of Sir J. Willoughby, and it is very likely that Mr. Seymour Fitzgerald will succeed him as Governor of Bombay.

THE DUKE OF SOMERSET, it is stated, is preparing an elaborate defence of his administration of the Navy.

GENERAL GARIBALDI advises the women of Italy never to enter the confessional again as long as they live.

MR. SERJEANT PAYNE has tendered his resignation of the City coronership, which he has held for thirty-seven years.

A COLONY OF ENGLISHMEN has been established in Greenland, and is prospering.

COLONEL STODARE, who for the past two years has performed as a conjuror at the Egyptian Hall, died suddenly, on Tuesday, from the rupture of a blood-vessel.

MR. HOME, the spiritualist, has received a gift of £20,000, in Consols, from an octogenarian lady whom his "manifestations" have profoundly impressed.

SIR WILLIAM THOMSON, F.R.S., is to be presented with the freedom of the city of Glasgow in honour of his distinguished services in connection with the Atlantic cable.

ST. PATRICK'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL in New York has been destroyed by fire, the loss being estimated at 200,000 dols.

THE LAND ON THE DULWICH COLLEGE ESTATE is worth more a yard in 1866 than it was an acre in 1619—the time the college was erected.

MR. EDWARD MIALI and MR. JACOB BRIGHT have been asked to offer themselves as Liberal candidates for Derby, but, like Mr. Robertson Gladstone, they have both declined.

MRS. JOHN T. HANSON, niece of Oliver Goldsmith, died on Friday, the 21st of September, at her residence, West Hoboken, New Jersey, in the 81st year of her age.

MR. F. BUCKLAND says that the annual value of the salmon fisheries amounts in Scotland to £500,000; in Ireland to £300,000; but in England to £10,000 only.

M. BERRYER is preparing his memoirs for publication. They are to appear under the familiar title of "Mémoires pour servir à l'Histoire de mon Temps."

MISS MARIA S. CUMMINGS, author of "The Lamplighter" and other works, died recently at Dorchester, U.S.

VICTOR HUGO asks no less than £20,000 for his new novel entitled "93," which is to come out in ten volumes. There is some fear lest the French Government should prevent its being published and sold in France.

THE DEATH OF COUNT GIULAY, who commanded the Austrian army in 1859, is reported from Vienna. General Giulay died of apoplexy.

NEWSPAPERS ARE INCREASING IN NUMBER so rapidly at Venice that the Milan typefounders cannot supply type fast enough.

IN ST. PETERSBURG tipsy people are lodged for the night at the police stations, and in the morning obliged to do penance as scavengers.

THE INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS, 53, Pall-mall, will open their winter exhibition of sketches and studies on Nov. 5.

A MORMON BISHOP, who died recently at Salt Lake City, left eleven wives and forty-seven children to mourn his loss.

MR. BRAND, the late Liberal whipper-in, is recovering from his severe illness, but he is firmly resolved, it is said, not to resume his important political office.

THE BEY OF YOUNG LADIES who received the King of Prussia on his triumphal entry into Berlin have been presented with gold brooches, ornamented with the head of the King and the Prussian eagle.

THE OLD "COUNCIL TREE OF THE SENECAS," at Mount Morris, New York, was blown down a few days ago. It measured 23 ft. in circumference. The solemn councils of the Seneca chiefs were held beneath this tree from time immemorial.

THE FOUNDATION-STONE of a new cathedral at Inverness, to be called the Cathedral of Moray, was laid last week by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

THE SULTAN has presented the Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul with a piece of land, called Tobanokur-Boston, a Top-Hane, for the purpose of erecting thereon an orphan asylum. The conduct of these religious during the prevalence of cholera in 1865 has procured them this Imperial favour.

THE LONDON AND SOUTH-WESTERN RAILWAY have at length definitely resolved upon the introduction of separate carriages for smokers and non-smokers.

A LITTLE ORPHAN BOY, who has recently supported himself by blacking boots in Little Rock, Arkansas, has become the possessor of a fortune of 120,000 dols. by the death of a wealthy relative in Louisiana.

THE MAIL-BAGS were stolen from the Oundle station, near Stamford, a few days ago. They were subsequently found in a plantation, having been tampered with, and an Irishman, who is believed to be the thief, has been apprehended.

MR. CHATTERTON, Q.C., has been appointed to the office of Solicitor-General for Ireland, in room of Mr. Morris, who has been appointed to the office of Attorney-General, vacant by the promotion of Mr. John E. Walsh to be Master of the Rolls.

A GENTLEMAN OF FLORENCE was recently expelled the theatre there for squirting scented water on the ballet-girls. He maintained that it was his "way of applauding."

PRESIDENT JOHNSON has presented a silver medal, a certificate of merit, and one hundred silver dollars, to Hoo-ke-Op, an Indian chieftain of the Black-foot tribe, in recognition of that savage's gallantry in rescuing a white woman from captivity among the Sioux.

MR. GLADSTONE is expected in Paris about the 15th of November, and the Société des Economistes, of which M. Michel Chevalier is chairman, is preparing to give him a welcome. It has been decided to offer a grand banquet to the illustrious English statesman.

THE ADMIRALTY have accepted the tender of the firm of George Smith and Co. for the extension of Portsmouth Dockyard. This contract, under the provisions of an Act of Parliament, involves an expenditure of upwards of a million in the next four years.

THE RUSTICS at Bathampton, near Bath, declared that they had repeatedly seen in the churchyard the ghost of their recently-deceased pastor. The police were at length set to watch, and arrested—a large white owl.

SIR ROUNDELL PALMER, Q.C., M.P., has consented to lay the foundation-stone of new schools which are to be erected in connection with St. Thomas's Church, Hemingford-road, Islington, on Wednesday, the 31st inst.

THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT has resolved on disbanding the Hungarian legion in garrison at Milan. Most of the men have expressed a desire to go to Greece, hoping to find an opening for their services in that country.

MR. JAMES H. ISELIN, a clerk in her Majesty's dockyard at Portsmouth, has been lost on the Alps. Three weeks ago he left Lucerne with the intention of ascending Mont Pilatus, telling a friend that he should return in the evening; but nothing has since been heard of him.

THE CITY OF TURIN, in anticipation of a marriage between the eldest son of Victor Emmanuel and the daughter of the Archduke Albert of Austria, has ordered from Valenciennes a rich bed-cover, in the finest lace, to be presented to the bride.

THE LONDON DRESSMAKING COMPANY (Limited) at a recent meeting declared a dividend of 10 per cent per annum, and 15 per cent of the profits was placed at the disposal of the committee of management for distribution amongst the most deserving employees.

THE VISITATION OF CHOLERA is thus spoken of in a late number of the *Nobles Gazette* of Moscow:—"Until now, thanks to the visible protection of Providence, cholera had only attacked the lower classes; but at present the terrible scourge attacks the middle classes and even the nobility."

THE NORFOLK ESTUARY COMPANY have just completed another embankment at Wolfert, adjoining the lands of the Prince of Wales and the Hon. Mrs. Greville-Howard, and the result is that 300 more acres of land are reclaimed from the Wash. This makes a total of about 500 of the 30,000 acres to be recovered from the sea.

LORD PLUNKET, Bishop of Tuam, died at Tourmakeady, in the county of Galway, on Friday week.

THE LIVERPOOL TOWN COUNCIL have resolved to erect a statue of her Majesty the Queen in front of St. George's Hall, as a companion to that of the late Prince Consort, already there. The cost is not to exceed £5000.

THE MARRIAGE took place, on the 23rd inst., of Daniel O'Connell, youngest son of the late Daniel O'Connell, Esq., of Derrynane Abbey, in the county of Kerry, to Ellen, only child of Ebenezer Foster, Esq., The Elms, Cambridge.

A DUEL took place on the frontiers of France and Belgium on the 12th, between an English nobleman and a French gentleman named Dupré. The latter was severely wounded, the former slightly. The cause of the meeting was some trifling remark made by the Frenchman about England, for which an apology was offered but refused.

THE LORDS JUSTICES OF APPEAL, as well as the Master of the Rolls, have £6000 a year, and the Vice-Chancellors each £5000. The Lord Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench has £8000, and the other judges £5000; the Chief Justice of the Common Pleas £7000, and the other judges £5000. The salary of the Chief Baron of the Exchequer is £7000, and £5000 to each of the Barons of the Court.

AT THE SEMINARY OF OSMA, Spain, was a cabinet containing an electrical apparatus and a pneumatic apparatus, which formed the subject of the teaching of a lay professor. On a recent visit of the Bishop to this seminary, the Prelate expressed astonishment that physical sciences engaged attention. He caused all the apparatus to be removed and sent away the professor, remarking that such teaching was "opposed to religious principles and prejudicial to youth."

THE DERBYITE CANDIDATE, Mr. Waldron, has been defeated in Tipperary by Captain White by a very large majority. Mr. Waldron took the lead at starting, but was soon left behind, and at the close of the poll the numbers were—Captain White, 3419; Mr. Waldron, 2865: majority, 554. Mr. Waldron has protested against Captain White's return on the ground of intimidation.

A COMICAL QUARREL, says a Paris contemporary, took place the other day on a boulevard. A gentleman roughly accosted a working man, and accused him of swindling. "You sold me," he said, "a pomade to make my hair grow; see, my head is as smooth as a piece of leather." "Sir," answered the vender of ointment, "you wrong me. There are lands where the best seed won't grow. It is not the fault of the seed; it is the soil." The gentleman did not continue the discussion.

MR. ELISHA PARKER, a victim of trades outrages, in writing to a Sheffield paper, says of trades meetings:—"You go to bring forward some motion. Well, it doesn't suit the assembly, some of them not being over- sober; and they commence to make fun of you, and you leave determined to pay no more. Well, you don't pay; and then comes 'Mary Ann,' who takes your hands or smashes your tools. If you still continue not to pay, you're blown up; that's all!"

THE BODY OF DANIEL MANIN, which now lies in the tomb of Ary Scheffer, in France, is to be conveyed to Venice on the 22nd of May, the anniversary of the declaration of Venetian independence. The duty of conveying his remains to Venice will be discharged by General Ullioa and M. Anatole de la Forge, the author of a history of the last Republic of Venice.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR WAR is prepared to receive proposals for breech-loading rifles, to replace the present service rifles. Prizes of £1000, £600, £500, and £400 are to be given for the best cartridge. There is to be a competition for the breech-loaders, and the successful rifle is to bear the inventor's name. The sum of £300 is to be allowed to each competitor for expenses.

MR. POPE HENNESSY has made a speech in the town of Wexford, in which he refers to the decline of the Irish population not to the "three bad harvests," but to "twenty years of almost unbroken Whig rule." The purpose of Whig Cabinets was, he said, to be thus expressed:—"Drive the human beings away to America; send in cows and oxen; make Ireland a silent pasture-farm for feeding the manufacturers of England."

JOHN S. RAREY, the celebrated horse-tamer, died suddenly, at Cleveland, on the 4th inst. Last December he had a stroke of paralysis, since which time he had been treated by several prominent physicians. On Thursday, at two p.m., he left the Waddell House for a walk, but soon returned, complaining of a pain in the head. After being seated a few minutes, he exclaimed "I am dying!" and in about an hour he expired. Mr. Rarey was a native of Franklin county, Ohio, where he was born in 1828.—*New York Paper*.

IN THE UNITED STATES there are 750 paper-mills in active operation. They produce 270,000,000 lb. of paper, which, at an average of 10c. per lb., would be worth 27,000,000 dols. As it requires about 1½ lb. of rags to make 1 lb. of paper, there are consumed by these mills 400,000,000 lb. of rags in a single year. If we estimate the rags to cost 4c. per lb., there would be a profit of 11,000,000 dols. in this branch of manufacturing.

SIR M. PETO.—On Monday night Sir Morton Peto met the representatives of the Liberal party in Bristol for the purpose of giving them a voluntary explanation of his position in connection with the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway. There is no room in the city large enough to accommodate the entire Liberal constituency, and the leaders of the Liberal Association consequently called together all the committees and sub-committees that aided Sir Morton at the last election, and the explanation was made to them. Sir Morton's reception was of the most enthusiastic character, and at the close of the meeting a vote of thanks was given to him. The speakers said they fully exonerated Sir Morton from the charges brought against him.

REFORM MEETINGS.—There was a great reform demonstration at Northampton on Monday. Notwithstanding heavy rain, great numbers of working men assembled and walked in procession. The rain came down so heavily, however, that an intended open-air meeting was abandoned, and the procession marched to the Townhall, where strong resolutions were passed. In the evening there was a densely crowded meeting in the Townhall, and a number of those who could not obtain admittance there went to the Mechanics' Institute, where they held a meeting. Mr. W. E. Forster addressed his constituents at Bradford on Monday night. He considered that such a settlement of the suffrage question as was proposed by Mr. Gladstone's bill will never again satisfy the country, and he strongly urged the various branches of the Liberal party to sink their differences and unite in support of a practical measure of reform. On Tuesday evening a banquet was given, at Guildford, to Mr. Onslow, the Liberal member for that borough. There was a numerous gathering of M.P.'s. Very naturally, the chief topic of speech-making was reform, the principal speakers being Mr. C. Buxton, M.P.; Mr. White, M.P.; and Mr. Onslow, M.P.

THE RAGE FOR WEALTH.—See it in all its madness in our poor friend Robinson. He has made one fortune; but did not consider it large enough, and is now busy in making another. He is off to the City at eight a.m., never returning till eight p.m., and then so worn and jaded that he cares for nothing beyond his dinner and his sleep. His beautiful house, his conservatories and pleasure-grounds, delight not him; he never enjoys, he only pays for them. He has a charming wife and a youthful family, but he sees little of either—the latter, indeed, he never sees at all except on Sundays. He comes home so tired that the children would only worry him. To them "papa" is almost a stranger. They know him only as a periodical incumbrance on the household life, which generally makes it much less pleasant. And, when they grow up, it is to such a totally different existence than his that they usually quietly ignore him—"Oh! papa cares nothing about this." "No, no, we never think of telling papa anything"—until some day papa will die and leave them a quarter of a million. But how much better to leave them what no money can ever buy—the remembrance of a father!—a real father, whose guardianship made home safe; whose tenderness filled it with happiness; who was companion and friend, as well as ruler and guide; whose influence interpenetrated every day of their lives, every feeling of their hearts; who was not merely the "author of their being"—that is nothing, a mere accident—but the originator and educator of everything good in them, the visible father on earth, who made them understand dimly "our Father which is in heaven."—*Fraser's Magazine* for October.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

YOU cannot sink a cork, neither can any known force keep submerged Mr. John Pope Hennessy. Eight years ago this gentleman was a mere Government clerk, at a salary of £150 a year. But in 1859, at the general election, he suddenly started into prominence, like a rocket. Without money—at least of his own—without rank, name, fame, or influence, he stood for King's County, and got returned at the head of the poll. When he entered the House, he was not received with much cordiality. The Irish members generally looked upon him very much as a herd looks upon a strange bullock. The Conservative gentlemen viewed him askance with squint suspicion. The Whigs spoke of him with undisguised contempt. He, however, as we know, soon broke through the taboo—struggled to the front, and became, if not famous, certainly a notable man. In 1865, alas! he lost his seat, and dropped down into obscurity like a broken-winged fowl. But he is up again, or at least on the wing, as the Conservative candidate for the county of Wexford, the seat for which has been vacated by the elevation of Mr. John George to the judicial bench. There ought to be no chance for Mr. Hennessy in the county; but Irish politics are just now such a strange imbroglio—Irish Papists rushing enthusiastically to support Protestants, and Protestant landlords supporting with all their power Roman Catholics—that it is impossible to foretell what may happen. Mr. Hennessy has two opponents—a Mr. Kavanagh, a Conservative; and Colonel Luke White, the brother of the conqueror at Tipperary, a Protestant and a Whig. If both the Conservatives stand, Colonel White will win. But most likely Kavanagh will retire, and, in that case, Hennessy may have a chance, and in February we may once more see him in his old place. If I were asked what are the chief characteristics which have enabled Mr. Hennessy, without name, fame, or money, thus to struggle successfully out of the ruck, I should say—firstly, audacity; secondly, audacity; thirdly, audacity; based upon a self-confidence almost sublime. But, besides this, he is certainly clever, or what Carlyle would call shifty; not meaning changeable but never at a loss for expedients. He knows how to adapt every turn of fortune to his use, and, in short, is one of the most dextrous climbers that the world ever saw. But his chief characteristic is audacity. He will fly at any game, throw for any stake. He would attack Lord Palmerston, worry the Irish Secretary, and, albeit he is but a young barrister and has had little or no practice at the Bar, he would not scruple to throw down the gauntlet to Lord Westbury or Sir Roundell Palmer. Indeed, he once fought for a time single-handed all the Judges and eminent lawyers of the land. It was on the subject of the consolidation of the statutes. But in this encounter he met with a disastrous defeat; for Sir Roundell Palmer, after having several times courteously replied to Mr. Hennessy's criticisms and objections, at last, annoyed by the pertinacity of his shallow opponent, got angry, and took him up bodily and whirled him out of the ring.

The victory of Captain Charles White in Tipperary is a heavy blow to the Conservative party. It is not the loss of a vote, for Alderman Dillon, the late member, was a Liberal; but something much worse. It shows that the Irish Roman Catholic voters of the lower class are all opposed to the present Government. Mr. Waldron had the support of nearly all the great landed proprietors, and is himself a Catholic; but this availed him little. His opponent, though a Protestant, had the priests and the people on his side; and they, in spite of the landed aristocracy, placed him at the head of the poll. The cause of this insurrection of the people against the Conservative landlords is not difficult to find. The Tories opposed the Prison Ministers' Bill, the abolition of the obnoxious Catholic oath, the land bill of Mr. Chichester Fortescue, and, in short, they oppose at all times concessions to the Roman Catholics. This choice by the Tipperary Catholics of a Protestant rather than a Catholic to represent them in Parliament looks strange at first sight; but it admits of an easy explanation. The Catholic candidate belongs to a party which refuses all concessions to the Catholics; the Protestant candidate to the party which is constantly making concessions. By-the-way, I announced a fortnight ago that it was Colonel Luke White who was standing for Tipperary; it was, however, Captain Charles White. Colonel Luke White, as I have said above, stands for Wexford county.

It is currently rumoured that the Government is about to introduce a reform into the Foreign Office. The exact nature of the reform I have not learned, but I believe that it is principally in the finance department. Hitherto this has been but loosely managed. Indeed, of the expenditure of some branches of the office no account has been regularly kept, or, say, rendered. Also the recommendations of Mr. Forster's Committee, which sat in 1864, are to be carried out, to enable the Board of Trade and the Foreign Office to act more harmoniously in matters of foreign trade. And, whilst I am writing on the Foreign Office, let me say that, on application there, I found that the authorities knew nothing of the appointment of Mr. Hannay to the consulship at Dunkirk. The place, according to said authorities, is not vacant. The report, though, may be true, nevertheless. The post may not be yet vacated, but only about to be vacated; and in such case the officials at the Foreign Office would know nothing of the matter.

Mr. John Rolt, Q.C., is to be the Attorney-General, vice Sir Hugh Cairns, thus passing over the head of Sir W. Bovill. It is the custom when an Attorney-General vacates to make the Solicitor-General Attorney-General; and if Mr. Bovill had claimed promotion I think he must have got it. Sir William Atherton, Solicitor-General, when Lord Westbury was promoted to the woolsack, claimed the post of Attorney-General. As he was a much inferior man to Sir Roundell Palmer the Government hesitated for some time, wishing to have Sir Roundell as Attorney-General; but Sir William would not forego his claim, and at last he got the place. It is said that Lord Westbury was anxious to appoint Sir Roundell, and when some one said it would never do to pass him over the head of Sir William, his Lordship replied in his simpering but bitter manner, "Head! I was not aware that Sir William had a head." The case however, between Bovill and Rolt is different. Sir William was the senior of Sir Roundell Palmer; whereas Rolt is the senior of Bovill. The present arrangement, however, is said to be in accordance with an understanding come to at the time of the formation of the Derby Government. Mr. Rolt has been a member of Parliament ten years. He entered the House as member for Gloucestershire, where he has a country seat and landed property, in 1857. He has not been a frequent speaker in the House, but he can speak solidly and well. His speeches, though, are too much in the dull style of the Court of Chancery and the Bar of the Lords to be attractive. He will, however, be a very good Attorney-General; for as a Chancery lawyer he has few equals and no superior. He was born in 1804, and is consequently sixty-two years of age.

It is amusing to observe what utter nonsense—if no worse—may be talked and applauded if it be only wrapped up in fine-sounding words. For instance, a meeting was held in Birmingham a few days ago for the purpose of forming a Conservative association of some sort or other; and one of the speakers, on being asked to describe a Conservative, said he was "One who would create without destroying," a declaration which is stated to have been received with loud applause. Did this gentleman (Warner his name is, and it deserves to be recorded), or any of his applauding hearers, consider for one instant what the words he employed meant? "Create without destroying!" Have Conservatives, then, Omnipotent power? Can they make something out of nothing? and can they place one thing in a portion of space already occupied, without displacing something else? These are powers usually supposed to pertain to Deity alone. Finite beings can be said to create only in the sense of reconstructing, rearranging, reforming (and hence the appropriateness of the designation adopted by another school of politicians) materials already in existence; and each act of reconstruction, of rearrangement, of reformation, must necessarily be preceded by one of destruction (not absolutely, but relatively), of disarrangement, or of deformation. Otherwise, there would neither be materials to work with nor a sphere in which to operate; unless, indeed, there be in politics what nature is everywhere said to

abhor—namely, a vacuum, which Conservatives alone have a monopoly of the capacity to perceive and the power to fill up. These, unhappily, are gifts it is difficult to believe in their possessing, considering that they have hitherto exhibited so marvellously little prescience in divining the course of events. It thus appears that our Birmingham friend's pretty definition of a Conservative is either nonsense or blasphemy: it is either devoid of meaning, or the Conservatives have appropriated the first and greatest attribute of Deity—omnipotence, a quality for which it is as difficult to give them credit as it is to believe in their prescience, remembering, as we cannot help doing, the numerous—I may even say continuous—and humiliating defeats to which they have for years past been subjected.

There be some things in the management of London charities that do greatly puzzle me. Especially am I perplexed by certain advertisements which are ever and anon appearing in the newspapers. For example, I saw in the second column of the *Times* the other day an advertisement of six lines acknowledging a donation of 5s. in postage-stamps received by the secretary of a certain charity, which I shall not name. Now as, if the *Times* charges at all for such notifications, the 5s. must have been all absorbed in paying for the advertisement, I am at a loss to understand what benefit the charity can have derived. In fact, its funds must have "gained a loss;" for, as a shilling a line is, I suppose, the least sum for which the *Times* will insert short advertisements in its second column, and as the acknowledgment in question makes six lines, the charity must be a shilling out of pocket by the transaction. It is possible that the institution may get an advantage by having its name thus kept before the public; but, if so, why is this particular donation so paraded? Are all donations advertised individually, whatever their amount? and if not, why was not a more imposing figure chosen—one calculated to evoke liberality on a larger scale than five-shilling donations? Of course, it is impossible to suppose that it is the secretary's name, and not that of the charity, which it is desirable to "keep before the public." I shall be glad to be enlightened on this matter.

I am happy to find that the managers of the Crystal Palace are vigorously following up the notion which, I believe, I was about the first to press upon their attention. They are striving to blend instruction with amusement in the entertainments they provide, and are thus carrying out to some extent the ideas with which the institution over which they preside was originally founded. A course of eight lectures has been arranged for the next two months, commencing on the 1st proximo, which, while highly interesting, promises to afford valuable instruction. The following are the topics and lecturers announced:—Nov. 1, "Goethe, his Life and Writings," by Dr. Heinemann; Nov. 8, "The Wild Tribes of India," by Hamilton Hume, Esq.; Nov. 15, "Ballooning," by Henry Coxwell, Esq.; Nov. 22, "Lord Erskine: The Bar," by A. A. Fry, Esq.; Nov. 29, "Australian Recollections," by Richard Lee, Esq.; Dec. 6, "The History and Literature of the Civil War," by Richard Chandler, Esq.; Dec. 13, "Rounding the Cape, &c.," by Hamilton Hume, Esq.; Dec. 20, "An Hour with Sir Walter Scott," by Joseph Fearn, Esq. I need not say that I wish every success to this most praiseworthy effort to render the most popular and agreeable place of resort in or near London educational as well as simply amusing.

I have just seen a copy of Mr. Eugene Rimmel's Almanack for 1867. It is a little gem: prettier, even, than its predecessors. The pictures illustrate "Industry and the Fine Arts," domestic scenes, sporting incidents, Christmas entertainments, &c. The bouquet, as usual, is exquisite.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES.

The *British Quarterly*, as I have before said, is never dull (and I was greatly amused not long ago to find a reviewer expressing his surprise that "religious" people could read anything so "light" as some of the papers which a particular number contained); but it is, on the whole, a serious organ, and rarely presents much matter for passing comment. Is there anybody among your readers, Mr. Editor, who would like to know more about Maine de Biran and his philosophic system than is easily accessible to ordinary English readers? If so, let him turn to the *British Quarterly* for the present month, where he will find an admirable paper, which will give him all he wants. Necessarily more entertaining is an article on "Photography," which exhibits some odd and, to me, surprising statistics about the demand for cartes-de-visite. To a man like me—who never in all my life had the smallest desire to see or know anything about the Queen, or any member of "the Royal family"—it is both amusing and startling to read of the incessant demand for photographs of Royal personages, including the Emperor of the French! The article on Récan's "Les Apôtres" does honour to the candour and intelligence of the author; and it is curious to note the forbearance which M. Récan has met with on nearly all hands. The "Literary Summary" is capital. Although I do not agree with the able writer who reviews Dr. Young and Dr. Bushnell in his point of view, I do agree with him in his criticisms on both those writers. Dr. Bushnell is much more like a conjuror than a reasoner; and, to sum up, the *British Quarterly* admirably maintains its old position.

Of Miss Braddon's new magazine, "*Belgravia*,"—the printer will kindly preserve the inverted commas, which are apparently the essence of the title as it is now worn—the first number is before me. Now that we see the magazine itself, we know a little better what its title meant. It is a magazine of lively, stirring, sensuous interest. You won't expect the mountain wind or the early sunshine in it—at least, you won't get them. You won't expect anything that would strike you as incongruous, or demand a readjustment of your thoughts, if you came to it after a walk in Eaton-square or Regent-street. You will expect, and you will find, the old familiar vein of narrative by Miss Braddon, of essay by Mr. Sala, and, for poetry, the (more or less) musical rhetoric which goes naturally with such prose. In the air you breathe while reading you would like more ozone; but what you have before you is good of the kind; and I can recommend, as having a real interest, "An Adventurous Investigation." The illustrations have been done with great care; and the cover and get-up in general are extremely good. So, in its way, is "The Chaperone," the first of the promised "Belgravian Prose Ballads."

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

I am sorry to say that I fear Mr. Chatterton's first important venture, "Faust," will not contribute largely to the DRURY LANE exchequer. Perhaps I had no business there. I am but a Lounger by profession; and to talk of lounging in connection with sitting out so stupendous an affair as "Faust," shortened as it is by considerable Mr. Bayle Bernard, is manifestly absurd. As it stands, it "plays" three hours and a half, and the "waits" between the acts are inconsiderable. It is well (but not extraordinarily well) placed upon the stage, and the principal parts are fairly embodied. Mr. Chatterton may make up his mind to this fact—that, until he can contrive some better representation of the heavens than the conventional Drury Lane "sky-borders," which are dirty and ragged at the edges, and which flap against the second-floor windows of the houses in his German streets, he can never hope to place an outdoor scene upon the stage with anything like the completeness attained at the Lyceum, the Princess's, and other theatres. It is true that he has an exceptionally large stage to deal with; but surely some improvement might be made upon these exploded absurdities. I was much disappointed in Mr. Phelps's Mephistophiles. The lines allotted to that character are delivered by Mr. Phelps in a guttural monotone, which is exceedingly well adapted to certain situations in the play, but which falls dead upon the ear after the first two hours. By far the most artistic portion of his performance was his scene with the students in the first "part." Here he gave his lines with admirable emphasis; it is difficult to imagine a better rendering of the caustic words which Goethe has put into the mouth of Mephistophiles in this scene. But with the resumption of his diabolical identity he resumes his hard guttural

monotone, and this lasts him, with scarcely a variation, to the end of the piece. I doubt, moreover, whether a palpably false nose is not a dangerous feature in Mr. Phelps's make-up, and whether he has done wisely in rejecting the characteristic pointed moustache and imperial which are usually associated with the character of Mephistophiles. Mr. Phelps's Mephistophiles is simply Mr. Phelps's Maufred, in high spirits. I am glad to be able to speak in approving terms of Mrs. Hermann Vezin's performance of Margaret. There is a gentle trustful simplicity about her rendering of the character in the first three "parts" (why not "acts," Mr. Chatterton—or would that be too commonplace?) which is extremely charming; and in the two last "parts," although she contrives to indicate the fact that she has fallen, it is done with exquisite delicacy. Mrs. Vezin has lost much of a certain affectedness of pronunciation which marred her earlier performances: if she could only contrive to rid herself of the small balance that remains, her representation of Margaret would leave absolutely nothing to be desired. Mr. Edmund Phelps played Faust respectably. Mr. Harrison sang Valentine's martial song with capital spirit, and Miss Poole gave the serenade in the fourth "part" (and which, save that it is sung by Miss Poole, would be much better out of the piece) with her usual grace and delicacy. Mrs. H. Vandenhoff played Martha judiciously, and the minor parts were respectably filled. The "bits" of an old German town are admirably painted; but I take exception to the Walpurgis scene. The arrangement of the stage is ineffective, and the "revel" is worthy only of a pantomime. There is nothing diabolical about it; it is simply grotesque; and the apotheosis of Margaret is ridiculous. I am not sufficiently well acquainted with the original "Faust" to render any tribute of mine to Mr. Bayle Bernard's translation worth his having; but, as far as I am able to judge, he appears to have done his work admirably. As Mr. Tully appears in the bill as the arranger of the music, Mr. Cormack as the inventor of the dances, Mr. R. W. Keene as the designer of the dresses, Mr. May and Mrs. Lawler as the executors of Mr. Keene's designs, Mr. J. Tucker as having invented the ingenious machinery, Mr. Needham as having made the properties, Mr. Hinkley as having superintended the gas illuminations, Mr. G. H. Gates as having prompted the performance, and Mr. Stirling as having exercised a judicious superintendence over the whole production, no one can accuse the management of undue reticence as to the persons who are really responsible for the success or failure of any feature of the performance. I ought to mention that the scene selected by your Artist for engraving—that where Faust obtains his first glimpse of Margaret through the agency of Mephistophiles—is one of the most effective in the piece.

THE PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE was visited on Saturday last by the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Queen of Denmark, Princess Thyra, and many other notabilities whose names I do not remember. The Prince wished to see "Ours," so he directed, at the last moment, that the burlesque should be played first, to the intense delight of Jones, who had paid to see "Ours," and had to leave by the ten o'clock train for Norwood, and of Brown, who, having seen "Ours" half a dozen times, came in at ten to see the burlesque.

Mr. Wilkie Collins's "Frozen Deep" is to be played at the OLYMPIC on Saturday, vice "The Whiteboy," run out. A new comedy is announced at the HAYMARKET for the 31st; a three-act drama by Mr. Boucicault at the ST. JAMES'S for Nov. 3; and Mr. Nation opens ASTLEY'S THEATRE for the winter season on Saturday with a dramatised version of "Our Mutual Friend" and the burlesque of "Atalanta."

A MONUMENTAL BRASS, designed by Mr. Butterfield, is about to be placed in the chancel of Hursley church, to perpetuate the memory of the late Mr. Keble. Subscriptions are flowing in fast, a peculiar feature being that parishioners only are allowed to contribute.

THAMES ANGLING.—The Thames Angling Preservation Society have determined to put the law in force against those who take undersized fish, and the following schedule of the sizes legally capturable has been put forth:—Salmon, not less than 6 lb.; trout, not less than 1 lb.; pike or jack, 12 in. from eye to tail; perch, 8 in. ditto; roach, 8 in. ditto; dace, 6 in. ditto; gudgeon, 5 in. ditto; barbel, 12 in. ditto; chub, 9 in. ditto. The water-bailiffs are occasionally to inspect the wells of punts to see that the law affecting under-sized fish is enforced.

CORNISH ANTIQUITIES.—A remarkable "fagon," or artificial cavern, has been discovered and partly opened at Trevnecage, in St. Hilary, Cornwall. It has thus far been traced from its commencement—unroofed for about 28 ft., and rooted for rather more than 6 ft. The excavation at present terminates in a small doorway, or lintelled opening; and close by this, on the left hand side, a narrow passage, through which a middle-sized man may creep, leads into a low, arched chamber, about 15 ft. long, 12 ft. broad, and from 3½ ft. to 4 ft. high. There is every appearance of the continuation of the cave beyond the doorway; and it will be followed up in the course of a few days.

"PARTNERSHIPS OF INDUSTRY."—The Cobden Memorial Cotton Mills at Sadden are designed to inaugurate a new era in the history of labour, and one which, if we mistake not, is destined to be of vast benefit to the industry of the country. It is really a co-operation, not of the workpeople alone, but of capital and labour, each receiving a due share of the profits after payment of salaries, wages, and working expenses. Such an arrangement appears likely to confer the best results on both. The plan is being carried out by a limited liability company, with a nominal capital of £80,000, of which £20,000 will be reserved for the workpeople. The scheme appears to be based on a sound and healthy idea, and its progress will be watched with great interest.

TREASURE TROVE.—An interesting discovery of silver coins has taken place at Stamford. A labourer named John Christian was excavating for sanitary purposes at the back of a house occupied by Mrs. Wyles, builder, in St. George's-square, when his spade struck upon an earthen jar, which proved to contain 2800 silver coins, chiefly Anglo-Gallic groats of Henry VII., coined at Calais, and English groats of Edward IV., of the London Mint. There were also a few half-groats of Edward III. The whole are in a fine state of preservation, many being almost as bright as on the day they were issued. The jar was found at a depth of only about 1 ft. from the surface, and not more than 6 in. from the foundation of the house. It is probable that the site was formerly included in St. George's churchyard, and that the coins were buried when the Lancastrians invaded Stamford during the Wars of the Roses.

MISTAKEN IDENTITY.—Seven years ago there lived at Handford, near Trentham, a working man, named Charles Carnall, who, from some unexplained reason, deserted his wife. Thinking that the parish officers would be better able to find him than herself the wife appealed to the authorities, and eventually became an inmate of Stone Union. While there a man, unknown, died at a lodging-house in the last-named town, and his body was taken to the workhouse. As the room in which it was placed required cleaning, the woman Carnall was sent to clean it, and, naturally enough, looked at the corpse. She had no sooner glanced at it than she exclaimed, "Bless us, this is my husband!" Two of her brothers-in-law were at once sent for, and they were of the same opinion; as was a woman named Phillips. Carnall, it appears, had lost one eye, and had a swelling at the back of his neck caused by the kick of a horse some years previously. The corpse was said to be thus deformed. Mrs. Carnall has since lived in Stone as a widow, where one of the brothers also resides. As the latter was sitting in his house, on Thursday night week, to his horror, the supposed dead man knocked at his door, and immediately presented himself, alive and well. The man remained with his relations during the night and disappeared next morning.

ARTILLERY EXPERIMENTS AT SHOEBUYNNESS.—On Wednesday another important series of experiments took place upon the Palliser chilled shot and shell and Firth steel shell, in which both classes surpassed everything accomplished by either on any former occasion. The Palliser shells were made of Pontypool iron, with thinner bodies, to allow of larger bursting charges, and they penetrated with ease the thick 8-inch armour-plates, the 18-inch teak backing, and the double skin of two 9-inch-iron plates, causing more terrible destruction at the back of the target than anything witnessed on the last trial, some few weeks ago. One 9-inch Palliser shell was fired at the Warrior target under circumstances intended to represent a distance of 2000 yards, but probably in reality equalling some greater distance between that range and 3000 yards; the penetration was complete, and the teak backing was set on fire, the flames quickly coming through the shot-hole. The 7-in. Palliser shells also did great work. Mr. Firth's 7-in. steel shells have absolutely increased the just reputation steel has hitherto had as a material for projectiles. They had heads formed of the peculiar curve designed by Major Palliser, an ogival, of 15 diameter, and had been tempered to a marvellous degree. The new Warrior target, No. 28, was completely penetrated by them; the fore-parts of the shells, perfect in form even to their extreme points, coming through some distance to the rear. The results of these experiments may be briefly stated to be that the Palliser shot and shell, doing work of the very best quality at less than half the cost of steel, are decided upon for the national ammunition, while the admirable manner in which the steel has been brought up to the requirements of the time will justify the utilisation of the steel supplied under previous contracts.

PRIVATE BOGGLES AT THE BELGIAN TIR NATIONAL.



Mr. Boggles, being fully equipped, takes a pathetic leave of Mrs. B.,



and then hastens to join his company.



Arriving too late, he hails the next steam-boat,



and arrives at Ostend, where, as the representative of the rear-guard, he receives an ovation.



He is fêted, and makes a speech.



Wishing to get some particular information, he consults his phrase-book.



Mr. B. then goes to see the country, and enters the first vehicle he meets.



Getting thirsty, he enters an estaminet, performs a little pantomime, and gets a bottle of eau-de-vie.



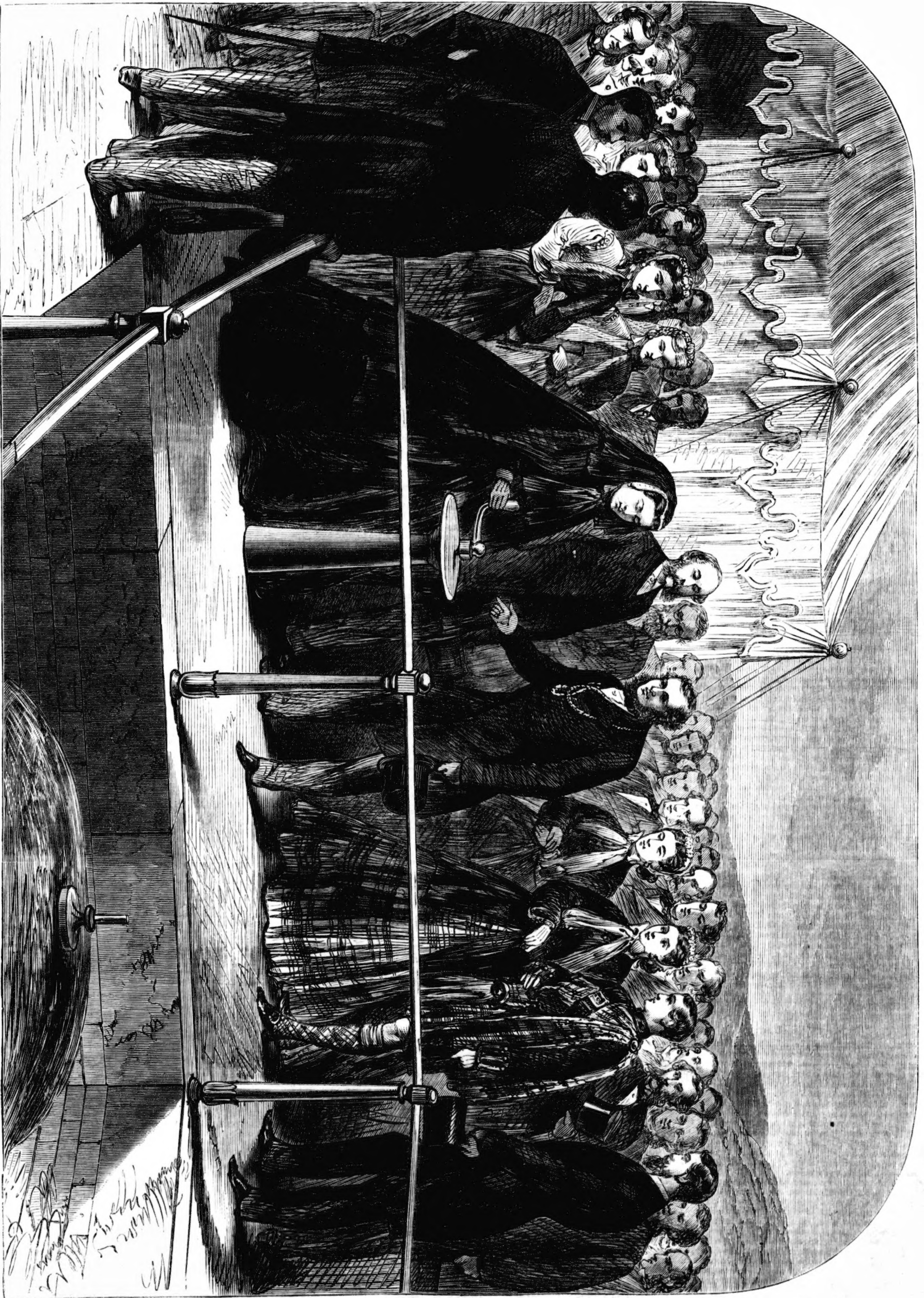
In returning, he is kindly shown the way by two ladies.



He wishes to start for Brussels privately, but doesn't succeed in doing so.



On reaching Brussels, he is carried to his company in triumph, and only wishes Mrs. B. was there to witness his reception.



THE QUEEN OPENING THE ABERDEEN WATER-WORKS AT INVERCANNIE.

THE TRANSFER OF VENICE.

THE city of Venice was transferred from the hands of the Austrians to those of the Italians, on the 19th inst., amid general enthusiasm. The incidents of this great event are thus described by the correspondent of the *Times*, who writes on the evening of the day on which the transfer took place:—

"It is done! Italy is free at last from the Alps to the Adriatic. At half-past seven this morning the Generals and the civil rulers of Venice met, and when they separated, it was on one side to send forth the military commandant and the last battalion on their way to Trieste, and on the other to ring their bells, hoist the banner of Italy from the masts that once bore up the triple gonfalons of Venice, Cyprus, and the Morea, and proclaim '*Venezia Liberata!*' Scarcely had the vessel in which General Alemann and his Staff embarked left the harbour, when the Italian war ships began to come in. In was in vain that the municipality had elaborated a scheme which was to give an artistical appearance of unanimity to the decoration of the streets, in vain had they named nine o'clock as the hour to watch for the sound of bells from the Tower of St. Mark's. The people wanted no leaders in the matter. Enough for them that '*lo straniero*' was gone, their first act of liberty was exercised without hesitation, and the city blossomed like a rose. Innate gentleness, called forth by the wise advice of their magistrates, kept them quiet, for the most part, till the Austrians were well out of sight; but soon there broke out, here and there, gradually trial shouts of joy, swelling and gathering force from minute to minute, till, at the sound of the first hammer-stroke on the swinging metal high up in the air above the Great Piazza, the whole city gave one exulting roar, and strong men embraced with tears, like children. One by one the Italian vessels swept in—the Garibaldi first, then the Fulminante, Confienza, Vinzaglio, Sirena, and, last, the ironclad Varese. Then the people of Venice heard the ships salute—their own ships—with those bronzed Venetian sailors on board who had long been exiles from their homes. Even yet they seemed half to doubt, and the gusts of joyful noise were fitful, for they could not touch the sailors, and the Austrian flag still floated from gun-boats in their port. Gondoliers silently pushed their gliding boats about the lagoon, the one magical word '*si*' displayed conspicuously in their caps, and the crowd began to gravitate towards the railway station, where the troops were to enter at noon. The municipality looked nervous lest their fête should go wrong. They need have had no fear, for the heart of Venice was moved, and only wanted expression. Along the Grand Canal the people were assembling in knots on the bridges, and gathering crowds on the quays, still without noise, except where here and there one bolder, or more used to agitation, than the rest, lifted a cry of '*Viva Garibaldi!*' or '*Viva l'Italia!*' which always found ready response. The grand old palaces seemed unaccustomed to the bright flags and rich draperies that drooped from their balconies or floated, sunlit, against the bright blue sky. Rich silks, Gobelin tapestries, everything that was beautiful or costly, was displayed on the massive fronts, and men and women adorned themselves with colour and ornaments; for all, rich and poor, wished to give of their best to honour the arriving soldiers. The Rialto was well decorated by the crowd which covered it. Twelve o'clock passed, and all along the line there was expectation; still they did not come. Is anything wrong? Backwards and forwards uneasily shot the municipal gondolas; a Garibaldian or officer of the commission was carried by, and elicited a few dropping cheers; but yet they delayed too long, and the tapestries and banners were displayed for them in vain. At last, after long waiting along the canal, the sound of music began to be heard in the distance, and advanced boats came up to see that the way was clear. Then slowly, but steadily, a long dark column appeared winding through the turns of the waters that hung immovable about the marble steps, for the tide was at full. Two barges came first, towed by gondolas and carrying the civil authorities of Venice, with the National Guard and their band. After them came the soldiers, and were greeted with subdued warmth, not with full enthusiasm as yet; the people seemed awe-stricken; there was so much daylight and the Austrians were not yet very far off. On one of the small bridges that cross the *riù*, just as they open on the Grand Canal, there was a woman with a lovely, sad sweet face like the Madonna di San Sisto, but she never once spoke nor clapped her hands, only gazing intently at the troops as they passed.

"Though the cheering was not great nor the excitement such as to justify the Italian writers in calling it, as they surely will to-morrow, a '*veritable delirium*,' there was a heartfelt and deep contentment, well understood by the army; and while the people cried '*Viva l'Italia!*' '*Viva l'amata Italiana!*' the troops responded '*Viva la Venezia!*' One of their bands played a well-known Venetian air—'*Venezia, mia bella, non ti voglio, più lasciar!*' Slowly, and therefore the more impressively, the black barges moved on with their light-hearted occupants, who, uncrowded, stood in easy attitudes or reclined in all the luxury of conquerors on a triumphal march. It is not in mortals to command success, and Austrian officers who met them on the field have told me that their valour deserved it. At any rate, Venice was right pleased with them, and they with their reception in Venice. Other troops marched over bridges, along the *riù*, and through the *calli* and *campi* that stand for streets and squares, not without welcome; but the procession up the Grand Canal was the chief and most impressive; and the line of dark boats, heavy with their military burden, could not be matched by any other display of the pomp of war. At the Palazzo Corner, the future residence of the *Ré Galantuomo*, a force of the National Guard were drawn up and presented arms; the soldiers acknowledged the compliment as they were drawn forwards towards their destination. It was nearly three o'clock before they reached the Piazzetta, and the flag of Italy and Victor Emmanuel was planted at last on the marble pavement of Venice, at the foot of the Lion of St. Mark. By this time the spell that had seemed to hang over the people was dissolved, and when the little army was drawn up in the Piazza, and began to march past, everyone's tongue was loosened, and they spoke plainly. A guard of honour had welcomed them, clad in civil clothes, with nothing to mark their military character but a cap faced with red. These were some of the municipal guard who had been in possession of the town all morning, having relieved the Greutzers from guard at four a.m., and immediately caused the iron railings to be taken away which had always fenced in the guard-room.

"As usual in all the late military pageants, the most striking part of the ceremony was the appropriation of the soldiers by the civilians, and the thorough acquiescence of the former. To day there were officers to march past and a point to salute, but all ceremony was swept away, the crowd gave them greetings from all sides, and the troops bowed and nodded right and left, officers saluting again and again the people of Venice. The *beraglieri* were, as usual, the great attraction; men and women broke the self-made ranks and ran beside the merry little soldiers, who could not be said to be marching in any ordinary sense of the word, for their half run was made with waving ranks, and their wheel was often simply running round a corner. They looked, however, what they are, first-rate light troops, and their intelligent heads turned right and left with the rapidity and something of the attitude of birds. The cheering was now hearty and reckless.

"When the troops marched home to barracks, there was leisure to see that the gondolier world was worth looking at. For love of rich colour you must go to the African or Asiatic races or to Venice, whose people adopted it with their oldest form of architecture from Byzantium and revel in it still as an intense enjoyment. There were white jackets and trousers all embroidered with red cord, or in velvet with red embroidery and green breeches, blue and silver, rich orange jackets over white, all with broad sashes of bright hues, commonly red, with many another contrast or harmony. In spite of all the world being abroad, there were not wanting unemployed gondoliers; and it appears as if the charm of the profession led to its being overstocked.

"The day was perfect in its weather; a sunny sky and cool breeze made a combination of brightness and freshness that was delightful; and, when the sun was on the horizon, looking to the left from Danieli, the city was bathed in a flood of rich orange

glow; to the right the palaces of the Grand Canal and the Church of Santa Maria della Salute rose uncertain in outline amid a golden glory. But no one knows Venice till they have seen her illuminated at night. Whether small jets of flame are led round the lines of her Gothic architecture transforming solid strength into fairy fragility, or the lights be so arranged as to bring out the sheen of the marble shafts and the grace of the pointed arches against the depth of the sky and the blackness of the penetrations, the effect is to bring back the youth of the building before decay and fire had marred its beauty. The Piazza of St. Mark was brilliantly lighted, and as the great mass of the Imperial Palace shut out the square from the side towards the Lido, on approaching the Piazzetta in a gondola, or wherever the view occurs, the Church of St. Mark glitters like a casket of jewels, and the tower that watches over it, losing the strength of the light as this has to climb higher, seems to lose its top in the dark blue vault above.

"The square, which was large enough for a review, in the afternoon was filled with all ranks and classes of people enjoying—yes, really enjoying—the music of the national bands. There were men, almost in rags; women, who carried two children in their arms and had others clinging to their skirts; Garibaldians, with arms thrown over the neck of *beraglieri*; Countesses, with their grace; and peasant girls, with their soft brown eyes, and for head ornament a crown of their rich black hair. High and low, rich and poor, met in that crowd with almost equal courtesy and kind feeling. They have been one in their long-burning desires, and they are one now in the fruition of their hopes. There was little noise, much placid contentment, a clear intention to spend this one night in quiet satisfaction, whatever may be in store for the morrow, and not to allow any disturbance to interrupt the smooth current of their tranquil happiness. This one sight must be satisfaction enough for the years of danger and dark plotting anxieties wherein so many Venetians have passed their best days, and even for the death of the friends who have been lost in achieving the freedom that now is theirs to use as they will.

"Then, the strange, solemn gliding up the Grand Canal, through one glittering and softly yielding field of light, almost deserted, against which the Rialto drew a sharp black outline above and cast dark uncertain shadows below. The soldiers in one of the palaces consigned to them as barracks for the present, were singing a Neapolitan chorus sweetly, but not with such wild plaintiveness as the Croats and Hungarians, who have gone home now; and suddenly a single strong voice rang out from a balcony near, with a cry as startling as that from the minaret at night, calling upon us to make this prayer, '*Viva Roma il Capitale dell'Italia!*'

"Emerging from the open mouth of the Grand Canal, our gondola came across a party of singers, whose music, sweet by nature and their art was rendered doubly so by coming to us over the water; and further on again, '*La Compagnia di Veneziani Pittori e Gondolieri*,' larger in number than the first band of musicians, were pouring forth sounds of superior richness. '*O Venezia!*' sang they in one sweet refrain,

"Peace has been won by Italia for thee,"

"Between one of their bursts of wild, yet soft harmony, the Italian bugle note sounded sharp and clear from San Giorgio opposite across the water, to remind us that Venice will really sleep to-night under the protection of some of her own sons. The stranger has been driven out from her streets by perseverance and enlisting on her side the combined opinion of Europe; her citizens would endure no ruffianly shouting to night to interrupt the music which they wished to enjoy, they have nothing more to fear, and surely they have power enough to protect the persons of the few Austrian officers from insult, and not again call upon a gentleman and a soldier, as they did to-day, to leave his sword at home, lest his life should be in danger."

The plebiscite in Venetia having shown an almost unanimous expression of the nation in favour of annexation to the Italian kingdom, the triumphal entry into Venice of King Victor Emmanuel has been fixed for Nov. 4.

DEATH OF M. THOUVENEL.—The death is announced, after a long illness, of M. Thouvenel, at the Palace of the Luxembourg, where he had his official residence as Grand Referendaire of the Senate. He was born at Verdun in 1818. On the completion of his studies in Paris he travelled for some years in the East, and on his return published an interesting relation of the countries which he had visited. He obtained an appointment in the Foreign Office in 1839, and first entered the diplomatic service in 1844, when he was named Attaché to the Legation at Brussels, and subsequently Secretary of Legation at Athens, where he was left Chargé d'Affaires on the appointment of M. Piscatory to the Madrid Embassy. M. Piscatory's name had been much mixed up with what would now be thought the paltry squabbles of rival diplomatists, and his chief merit in the eyes of the Government was his ability in counteracting the influence of England and maintaining the Coletti Cabinet in power. Count Bussan, having achieved the great object he had at heart—"the Spanish marriages"—was recalled from Madrid and sent to Naples. M. Piscatory was appointed his successor; but, before he could take possession of his post, the Revolution of February broke out. The new Minister at Athens, M. Roqueval, was recalled by the Provisional Government; and M. Thouvenel, who had at first been dismissed, was subsequently confirmed in his post as Minister Plenipotentiary by General Cavaignac, head of the Executive Government. He was at Athens in 1850, when the famous episode of Don Pacifico occurred, which occasioned a certain estrangement between the French and English Governments. Baron Gros was dispatched to Athens and was greatly assisted by M. Thouvenel in the settlement of that unpleasant affair. M. Thouvenel was soon after sent to Munich, where he was made much of by the family of King Otto. He was recalled to Paris after the coup d'état of December, 1851, and forthwith appointed "Political Director" at the Foreign Office, and held these functions until the conference of Vienna. In 1855 he was sent as Ambassador to Constantinople, where he had, it may be supposed, rather a hard card to play with Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, and also with the Austrian Intercunio, on the questions relating to the Danubian Principalities. It was in the midst of the diplomatic difficulties springing out of Italian affairs that M. Thouvenel was suddenly recalled from Constantinople to take the place of Minister of Foreign Affairs left vacant by the retirement of M. Walewski, in January, 1860. The diplomatic notes and circulars addressed by him to his agents abroad were much remarked on at the time; one of them purported to demonstrate the necessity of prolonging the French occupation of Syria. In consequence of a misunderstanding about the "*Roman Question*," he resigned the post of Minister of Foreign Affairs on Aug. 15, 1862, and was succeeded by M. Drouyn de Lhuys. He had been raised to the rank of Senator in 1859, was named Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour in 1860, and four years later was appointed Vice-President of the Senate, with apartments in the Palace of the Luxembourg. M. Thouvenel had the misfortune to lose his wife four months ago, at a moment when he himself was given over. He died from disease of the heart. He had not completed his forty-eighth year.

TRIAL OF RISK ALLAH BEY FOR MURDER.—On Monday morning the trial of the above prisoner, whose case has lately been described in our columns, commenced at the Palais de Justice, Brussels. There are nearly fifty witnesses to be examined, of whom the first day's proceedings have disposed of only six. The whole of the forenoon was taken up by the reading of the *acte d'accusation* and the interrogation of the prisoner. He is a man of prepossessing appearance and manners; his age, as he states it, is forty-two, and but for the recent change of his jet-black beard to an iron-grey, with patches of almost positive white, he would not look a day older. When he took his place at the bar he bowed with a grave self-possession to the Court; and presently, catching the eye of some acquaintance, smiled and nodded quite as easily as if he had been in his stall at the opera. His head was covered with a soft red cloth, with a purple silken tassel; and he pushed back this covering with a hasty movement now and then, so as to leave his brows quite bare. On the braided front of his military frock-coat he wore the star of an officer of the Order of the Medjidji, the cross of a chevalier of the Order of Isabella, and a great number of medals and decorations. Several magistrates, high functionaries, and persons of distinction—among them being the Russian Ambassador, Prince Orloff, and the Chargé d'Affaires of the Sublime Porte—sat behind the Bench. Risk Allah is accused not only of murder, but also of an entirely distinct offence of uttering two forged cheques on the National Bank of London. A motive for the crime is suggested by the circumstance that by the death of the young Englishman the accused became entitled to a large sum of money; and, in fact, according to the indictment, he received a large portion of it under a decree of the Court of Chancery, dated July 21, 1865. It appears, also, that he insured young Ready's life for £1,000, and obtained payment of this sum in February last. From the manner in which the wound was inflicted it appears, by medical testimony, that death must have been instantaneous, the charge of the gun having perforated the head. But the two arms were found under the coverlid, the right hand resting on the stomach, and the left arm extended by the side of the body. It is pronounced to have been absolutely impossible that after firing the gun the unfortunate youth could have put his hands under the bed clothes.

MR. SNIDER AND GOVERNMENT.

MR. C. M. CLODE, solicitor to the Admiralty, has published a letter in vindication of the conduct of the department with which he is connected in their dealings with Mr. Snider. Mr. Clode says:—

Mr. Snider's claims resolve themselves into two heads:—
1. Those which arise under the patent of 1862, in which he owns a quarter part or share; and the patent of 1864, in which he has, as I understand it, the same interest.

2. Those which arise from services said to have been rendered by him to the Government for eight months subsequently to Nov. 16, 1865.

Each claim has been and, therefore, shall be here made the subject of a separate consideration.

With regard to the patents, the one patent of essential value is that of 1862, taken out by Snider and Snider jointly. Now, the commercial value of this patent before it was submitted to the notice of her Majesty's Government is shown by the purchase-money paid for it by the present holders thereof. Mr. Snider having previously assigned his moiety to Messrs. Aston, of Birmingham, for a nominal consideration, the same moiety was, in February, 1865, assigned to Mr. Roden for £2000. The moiety of Mr. Snider was, in December, 1864, purchased by Mr. Snider and Mr. Clode for £300. The patent of 1864 has never been the subject of purchase or sale. What, however, may be the value of these patents is not now, nor has ever been, the subject of controversy. The patents remain now, as heretofore, the property of the assignees, though greatly enhanced in marketable value from the favourable reports made upon them by the officers of her Majesty's Government. The only question, therefore, that her Majesty's Government had to consider was the fair sum to be awarded to the holders for any use that might be made of the invention. Dealing with the matter, not as a matter of contract, but (as the law puts it) of bounty on the part of the Crown, the Secretary of State for this department saw fit, in August last, to award the following sums:—*a.* £5000 to be paid down whenever a good title to the patents is shown to the satisfaction of the law officers of the Crown. *b.* For every arm converted above £100,000 rifles, 1s. an arm, till a further sum of £5000 is paid to them. *c.* For every arm converted over £200,000, 6d. an arm, till a further sum of £5000, making a total reward of £15,000 be paid, when all payments are to cease. The arm, never having been tried in service, may prove a failure, and in that aspect £5000 will be lost to the public.

3. Mr. Snider's personal claims are limited in his own definition of them to a period of eight months running, from Nov. 16, 1865, and an explanation of their origin may help to elucidate their nature and character. The rifles upon which the first experiments of the Ordnance Select Committee were made were supplied by Mr. Snider at an agreed price, never the subject of controversy. Subsequently ten more rifles were needed for experiment; and Mr. Snider then requested that, instead of his supplying the department with them, they should be converted at Enfield. This request was acceded to; and, as the ammunition to be used in the rifles was engaging the attention of Colonel Boxer at the Royal Arsenal, Mr. Snider was requested to place himself in communication with Colonels Dixon and Boxer, and to afford them every facility in his power in carrying out their instructions.

His claim was (1) for eight months' continuous service to the Government, £2400; and (2) for plans and models, £300; and it, like every other claim, underwent examination, to elicit the facts on which the claim rested.

In the first place, the service, though rendered to the department in respect to their future use of the arm, resulted in the more perfect development of an invention which was covered by the patents of 1862 and 1864, and by another patent which, on Jan. 29, 1866, Mr. Snider applied for. It was, therefore, rather for the owners of these patents to bear these expenses of development than for the public. However, waiving this objection, the officers of the Secretary of State proceeded to examine the claim. Mr. Snider's attendances at Woolwich, Enfield, and before the Ordnance Select Committee were found, from the reports of the officers in charge of those establishments, to have been extremely limited, not exceeding, so far as the Enfield factory and the Ordnance Select Committee were concerned, eighteen days in the eight months; for, indeed, if the patents of 1862 and 1864 were valid in law, the specifications and plans would need no personal explanation. Colonel Boxer reported that he had received no assistance whatever from Mr. Snider. The Secretary of State could not therefore recognise the principle of continuous service in the employment of the department, though he was willing to pay Mr. Snider the highest rate that ever had been allowed for the attendance of the most distinguished engineers, and for men of the highest scientific attainment, when employed by the Crown for the advancement of public service and in matters in which they had no personal pecuniary interest.

As to the plans and models said to have been furnished to these officers, their reports as to their existence were not more satisfactory; and, therefore, dealing with Mr. Snider's solicitor with the openness and candour which every public servant is bound to show to all claimants upon the public purse, I plainly stated the results of our investigation, and gave him time and opportunity to supply any particulars or information that would elicit the truth and tend to a more favourable view being taken than was then entertained of Mr. Snider's claim. Therefore, in the absence of any evidence to support a claim for any such amount, the Secretary of State, from a desire to deal liberally towards Mr. Snider, stated his willingness to give £1000 for his sole benefit, in satisfaction of any claim which he might think himself to have against the department.

Neither remonstrance nor objection has ever been heard from Mr. Snider as to the justice of this award, and certainly when to facilitate the payment of the money I forwarded to his solicitor—in answer to his inquiry when the £1000 could be paid—the form of the receipt that would be required I little thought that an act intended as one of sympathy and courtesy towards his client would be represented as an act of over-reaching harshness towards a poor man. When Parliament meets the papers can be moved for, and until the best information is in possession of the public their judgment on the conduct of the Government and their subordinate agent will, I venture to hope, be suspended.

As to the department having sued Mr. Snider for £125, 2s. 6d., or any other sum, I, as its legal officer, have neither done so myself, nor ever heard that any other legal agent has so acted towards him. I believe the statement to be simply untrue.

TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION WITH INDIA.

THE report of the Select Committee on East India Communication that sat during last Session has recently been issued, and contains some interesting particulars on this important subject. It appears from evidence adduced that there exist at the present time two systems of telegraphy between England and our Indian possessions. One, commonly called the Turkish route, passes through Vienna and Wallachia or Servia to Constantinople, and reaches the latter city by way of Turin, across the Adriatic to Salonica, and along the shores of the Sea of Marmora. Having reached Constantinople, it is forwarded through Asiatic Turkey to Bagdad, and thence to Fao, where it is received by British officers for dispatch to Kurrachee, or by way of Teheran to Bushire, where it again falls in with the main line, and is then exclusively under the control of the Government of India. A message by this route may be dealt with by no less than ten Administrations before passing into British hands. A large mass of evidence goes to prove that the vexatious delays constantly occurring on this line are mainly due to the apathy and carelessness of Turkish officials, who not only neglect to keep any wire or system of wires exclusively for Anglo-Indian use, under the terms of the Indo-Ottoman Convention, but fail egregiously in the prompt performance of their ordinary clerical duties. The other available system, called the Russian route, passes through Berlin via the Hague, thence into Russia, through Tiflis to Julpha, on the Aras, and so over the Persian system to Bushire. These two systems of telegraphic communication are distinct as far as the head of the Persian Gulf, but intercommunication may be altogether suspended by the occurrence of any accident to the submarine cable between this point and Kurrachee. The Russian system appears to work well as far as the eastern frontier of that country, but fails in its entirety from the imperfect arrangements of the Persian service between Julpha and Teheran. A report submitted by Colonel Goldschmidt, in November, 1865, recommends that such part of the Anglo-Indian system as passes through the Ottoman empire should be placed in the hands of Englishmen, making the principal stations at once Anglo-Ottoman, as at Fao. This plan, however, is inadmissible, for political reasons. The Russian Government are willing to place their system in the hands of a London firm, and such a course would be eminently advantageous if the possession of the Persian line could be secured. The Committee have therefore recommended that means should be adopted for facilitating the use of the Persian system with Europe, so as to bring the Russian route under efficient control; that, to avoid future accidents, the Persian Gulf cable should be doubled, or, by arrangements with the Persian Government, that hand-wires should be instituted between Isphahan and Kurrachee; that the scheme of establishing a direct communication between Alexandria and Bombay, by way of Aden, is specially worthy of consideration, and should receive all possible aid from her Majesty's Government, as thus establishing a route under our management and responsibility. The Committee also urge upon the Indian authorities the absolute necessity of improving their internal arrangements, so as to remove all risk of delay in the transmission of messages from Kurrachee to the interior.

A KIND-HEARTED BUTCHER.—A few days ago a poor man, passing the butcher's shop of Mr. Harrison, Church-street, West Hartlepool, was observed by the latter to take from his stall a sheep's head and walk away with it. Mr. Harrison followed him leisurely to his home, and, on entering, inquired what had induced him to commit the theft. The reply was as shocking as unexpected. The poor man, bursting into tears, directed his pursuer's attention to a family of young children, who were at that instant busily engaged gravely the head in its raw state. The explanation tendered was that of "enraged hunger." Mr. Harrison thereupon bade the man retrace his steps to the shop, and there sought to relieve his distress by the gift of a 6s. piece (with which to purchase bread and potatoes), together with 7 lb. of beef.

Literature.

Religio Animæ, and Other Poems. By ALFRED B. RICHARDS, Author of "Cæsus, King of Lydia." London: Edward Moxon and Co.

Mr. Richards has thought it worth his while—and perhaps it was—to answer, in a footnote, a little charge of plagiarism (from Longfellow); but, generally speaking, petty charges of the kind tell only on the ignorant and stupid, and *them* it is impossible to disabuse by explanation or criticism. The truth is, that there never was a good thing said by anybody which that anybody, unless he was Adam, was the first to say in the world. We would undertake to find a staring parallel to *any* fine passage in any poet or any philosopher that ever wrote. It would be quite easy to produce a book as thick as Mr. Richards's made up of charges of plagiarism against, say, Mr. Tennyson or Mr. Browning; and quite easy to write another book, of the same thickness, to stultify the charges one by one. People who are always ready to make such charges display not their knowledge, but their ignorance; not their memory, but their want of memory. A "clever" recollection easily calls up a hundred plausible cases. A better recollection brings the *reductio ad absurdum* in ten thousand parallels.

It is very difficult to speak justly and accurately of the poems of Mr. Richards. He is evidently a most accomplished gentleman; his book is full of generous and beautiful intention; and he often produces single lines or images of true poetic power. And yet he never produces a poem; nor is it easy to read ten lines in succession of what he writes without being struck with the involuntary grotesquerie of his manner. It is sometimes as if an excitable youth were composing a prize poem in a hurry. Let us open the volume and take a specimen:—

HELEN AND CASSANDRA.

The rush and the roar and the leap and the curl
Of flame, like the manes of great lions drift;
With fierce, bristling terror and volleying whirl,
'Neath smoke-pall of sable and crimson-dyed rift:

A rain of white ashes, like storm-eddied leaves,
When the shrill blast of winter their troop chases round;
A noise, as of ocean that moaning upheaves,
When the rafters of hell split with agony's sound:

The loud wrack of temples, tall buildings ablaze,
Like the Titans when Zeus smote their brows with his brand;
Swooning pillars, whose statues glow lit with warm rays,
Ere they sink, one by one, grasped by Doom's giant hand:

The flames sweeping nearer, then howling afar,
With their red wolfish tongues close on fast-fleeing Night;
When that dread chase is o'er, shall proud Ilium's star
No more gild her turrets with joy-beams of light.

Now, that any human being who was capable of the two italicised passages—which are good, especially the second, "swooning pillars"—should have written the rest of these verses, which are hopelessly, utterly bad, is surely a thing to puzzle over. We confess to being simply baffled by it. Take another verse or two from the poem entitled

SHAKESPEARE.

Fear not thy turf-built altar still to raise!
The starlit shepherd in his lonely fold
To bright Orion pipes his simple praise,
Though far above him, girt with flaming gold:
Then unreprieved play on.

Give me to note that glorious company—
As when a child first sees some goodly show,
His little breath he fetches pantingly,
His little eyes with wonderment o'erflow.

These verses are good, and there are other good lines in the poem; but the general effect is as harsh as the tumbling of stones out of a cart into the street. What are we to say to a poet who is capable of the beautiful concentration of "swooning pillars" and yet can descend to "wavelets," "joy-beams," "Death's hollow mandate," and scores of such odds and ends of the mere upholstery of verse? Let us try again. Take a few lines from

THE TRIUMPH OF THOUGHT.

Deem not therefore Fancy vain,
Knowledge but intenser pain:
Pret! take the heart of grace,
Though the last in life's dull race,
Thou may'st leave behind, in trust,
Magic to enshrine thy dust,
Spelt to work and charm to save,
Germ to spread forth from thy grave
Tree of good whose living shoots
From Death's mould bear glory's fruits;
Thoughts to touch an erring heart;
Words that may soft rest impart;
To a faint and struggling soul;
Calm to Passion's billowy roll;
Heart strings to the hard and cold,
Guiding to sweet Pity's fold;
Sun-bonds to the rich and strong,
Strengthening Right and lessening Wrong;
Whispers of a loftier aim;
Breathings of a nobler fame.

Here, the lines we have italicised are good; but the whole of what follows, down to the very last line (we have not quoted all), is no more poetry than it is wood-engraving. It is "newspaperial" rhetoric cut into lengths. Mr. Richards need not be surprised if all the reviewers in England should shut up his book with a "clap," merely upon coming to such a combination as "soul-bonds." They would be very wrong, no doubt; and we prefer, for our part, to turn the page again and again. Note the following, also from "The Triumph of Thought":—

And if it be so, well! what matter then?
Some buried stragglers from the march of men,
Some pioneers, unnamed by mortal praise,
Who cut life's thorns, whilst others reap the bays;
Some victim-martyrs, splendidly-fortorn,
Who toll through Night, but never reach the Morn:
The flying columns, van of Faith's array,
Truth's single spies, who, dying, mark the way—
There must be, have been, will be, to the end,
Till conquering angels human follies mend.

Here again, in the bits italicised, we have the signature of a poet; but "victim-martyrs" is absolutely vile, intolerable; and the two last lines are a fathom-deep descent into doggerel.

We have taken much pains with this book because there is in Mr. Richards so very much that moves us to respect and admiration. But we cannot, as Duane would say, make him out. The best things we can say to him would be somewhat like the following:—The poetic mood is essentially different from the rhetorical, the preaching, or the journalistic mood. Generalities of declamation, spangle them with fine fancies as we may, will never produce the sweetly exhilarating effect of poetry, however they may disturb us. Fireworks may make us cry, Oh! but not the morning or the evening sky; or, if the sky does make us cry, Oh! then, so long as the exclamatory mood lasts, we are not in a condition to write poetry. When Mr. Richards has produced such a couplet as

Hoar ocean chants his war-runes
When billows charge and die,

he has produced matter for a poem; but the couplet as it is only irritates us. Is the ocean distinct from the billows, or what does it all *precisely* mean? Do all the billows sing the war-runes as they charge? If so, the expression of the idea is most imperfect. It is as bad as a bit of Ossian, the material for a poem, a really fine image, is thrown at you in two pieces, like a broken bracelet, and you are left to make what you can of it. The truth is, the warm sympathies of Mr. Richards, as a man, spoil him for a poet. He may have the keenest feelings about social wrongs and the sad puzzles of human life; but no amount of fancy or fire will enable him to make poetry by writing about them. To do that, he must "take a single captive," and put a lyric into the single captive's mouth. He is right in thinking it is the business of poetry to quicken our

sympathy with suffering; but he must choose between singing and preaching. Let him note how much sweeter and more musical are the quiet, uncrowded, simple passages of his poems. The greater part of his book *could* not be made into music if he were to hammer at it for twenty thousand ages with the force of Tubal-Cain and the melodic instinct of Milton or Tennyson. Some of the poems appear to have been written in the declamatory stage—youth; but all through the volume there is rhetoric in heaps, with here and there a shining drop of poetry. We earnestly hope to meet Mr. Richards again in a volume which shall have the quiet, unhurrying dignity and sweetness of poetry, without preludes of oburgation, or any trace of turmoil on the singer's sandals. No man ever produced living poetry who did not sternly distinguish between singing and declaiming; who did not throw away, as discordant, three times as many "beautiful ideas" as he kept. It is of far more consequence to a minor poet to produce one or two perfect short poems by which he may be remembered, than to produce volumes of indifferent work; and the first instruction to a poet who wishes to produce a perfect short poem is—Beware of "beautiful ideas."

A Prodigy. A Tale of Music. By the Author of "Modern German Music," "Rocabella," &c. London: Chapman and Hall.

It has been observed that some people cannot avoid elopement with a subject. They run away with it, or it runs away with them. Generally the result is favourable, but sometimes it is necessary that the young "contracting parties" (as they say in European treaties) should humble themselves boldly—if that can be done—confess the weakness of their love, and accept with penitent gratitude the "bless you, my children," just before the curtain falls. But some (a very few) people are strong enough to "run away with a subject," and to hold their own, without care or assistance from others. A "Tale of Music" reminds us of musical novels, and of how great a difference may exist between "tweedledum and tweedledee" and "Charles Auchester" was a brilliant success as a musical novel; and who can forget George Sand's Porporina in "Consuelo"? Only the other day, and up to this moment, everybody is admiring Sutherland Edwards's "Three Louisas," and almost wishing that there were thirty! And here, quickly enough, is another musical novel. Swift's difference between tweedledum and tweedledee at once steps in between the pair of books. Mr. Edwards revels in music. He takes his characters into every "isle full of sweet sounds," and converts people by awakening their sense of melody. Mr. Chorley, the author of "A Prodigy," does nothing of the kind. He is contented with setting up before the public a young savage, without manners or anything else, calling him a prodigy, and abusing everybody who does not happen to be as elate as himself with Mozart's symphony in X Y Z. His hero, Charles Einstein, is a gentleman, we are told, and he conducts himself like a fool and a blackguard. We are assured that he is the most astonishing musician since Mozart, and there is no proof of it in the story. Musical genius may be difficult to put upon paper, and excess of genius in music would be "caviare to the general," even if it were put upon paper. Mr. Edwards takes his reader into really musical society, and, by-the-way, makes that society talk infinitely better than it ever talked before. Mr. Chorley merely asserts a musical genius—a human entity, a prodigy—and leaves him with that assertion, and the privilege of making the best of it. The "bet of it" is very dull work indeed. As the groundwork of an old-fashioned Adelphi melodrama, and with the tediousness about music omitted, the story would not be useless. Here are the old materials. An English-German Baroness, widowed, and marrying a parvenu peer. She has two sons—a heavy one and a genius. The genius insults the world, makes every kind of mistake, not altogether without a share of the best intentions; is made very unhappy, but will be all right again in that fourth volume, which happily will never be written. The other son is not worth considering. When we consider how this family, and three or four others, are constantly running against each other all over Germany and elsewhere; how there is plenty of comedy about plain people and Quakers mixed up with the high society tragedy . . . and how all these elements twine together like miscellaneous creepers in a hedge, the idea of cheap melodrama is irresistibly conveyed, and "music" is simply forgotten. Mr. Edwards gave us the chords of a fascinating instrument, and touched them with very loving fingers; Mr. Chorley gives us but a showy outer case, conveying not a sound. Agreeing with Pope, that

The sound should be an echo of the sense,

the painfulness of the omission is at once apparent. It is annoying to be "sleeping in one's orchard of an afternoon" without fruit and without rest. Tempted to meet a prodigy and a musical evening, and to find a mannerless fellow and a set of chattering idlers, is not to the taste of those readers who are doomed to be tempted by title-pages only. Mr. Disraeli did not make much of a genius of Contarini Fleming; and in "Venetia" he was anything but successful in portraying Byron and Shelley. But there was something in the characters: something more than mere assertion of those characters' wondrous powers; something more than a commonplace story which would be too weak for the *London Journal*, and only strong enough to make mere brains-and-water puzzled. A story the incidents of which comprise a hard-hearted stepfather, a runaway son, an illegitimate son working his way in great families for shameful purposes, a murder, an attempted murder, a suicide, a maniacal family, coupled with a lover of Mozart's Symphony in X Y Z, somebody who likes Chopin and somebody who does not, with minor things to match, should not be called a musical novel; it should rather be called a literary delusion.

Theoretical Astronomy Examined and Exposed. By "COMMON SENSE." London: Job Caudwell; Greenich: Wm. Carpenter.

They are all wrong, the astronomers: Galileo, Copernicus, Kepler, Newton, Herschel, Brewster, Hind, Airy; and nobody is right, or has been right in modern times, save Cardinal Cullen and the author of "Theoretical Astronomy Examined and Exposed." "Oh, Liberty!" exclaimed M^{rs}. Roland, "what crimes are perpetrated in thy name!" And "Oh, Common Sense!" say we, "what folly is often uttered in thine!" Here is the author of this book—Common Sense, he calls himself, bless you!—who aspires, in the great heap of his self-conceit, to upset the labours of all the great men whose names have been associated with the science of astronomy since the days of Copernicus and Galileo. The mass of matter on which we live—we must not call it a planet, nor a globe, nor a ball, nor—yes, we may, and that is some comfort, as well as a great convenience—we may call it the Earth—is not rotund; it does not revolve around the sun, nor "spin upon its own axis like a huge top;" it is not one of many planets of which the sun is the centre, but it is itself a centre of which he is a mere satellite. It is, in fact, a vast level plane, with—a strange phenomenon in nature—only one side, for there is no such place as the antipodes, no other side to the Earth. And yet it is not a level plane: it is a hollow, cup-shaped affair—a "huge punchbowl," in short. These are "Common Sense's" assertions: for God's sake, reader, take them not for ours. In plain words, the book before us pretends to upset the entire received system of astronomy, and contends that we ought to go back to the old notions which obtained before Galileo discovered that "it goes round." The grounds upon which the author proceeds are:—1. That according as things seem to the eye, so they must be; 2. that as the Bible, according to his interpretation, has said so-and-so, why, of course, so-and-so must be, all proofs to the contrary notwithstanding; and, 3, that because astronomers have made some mistakes in calculating the sun's distance from the earth, therefore all their deductions must be false. We do not mean to argue with this self-constituted monopolist of "Common Sense." It is sufficient to state his conclusions, and leave the matter to the common-sense of our readers. We may, however, be permitted to ask our author one or two questions:—1. How can the earth, as he says, be level, and yet, as he also says, be at the same time concave? 2. Though level, or even concave, it must yet have two surfaces, an upper and an under; and how does he know that he is on the upper one? 3. What child has any notion of up or down, or the locality of heaven, till it has

been taught? 4. Why, if he adopts exploded notions as to the form of the earth, does he not also adhere to the brazen-arch notion as to the sky? His punchbowl illustration, supposing the bowl inverted, would come in with irresistible force here. But really it is no use contending with the presumption and self-confidence which are born of limited knowledge and thorough prejudice. But surely the author should have been consistent with himself. Instead of ornamenting the boards of his book with a golden globe, he might have given us a figure showing the earth's shape, according to "Common Sense." May we venture to give him a hint in case he should be tempted into print again? Let him make his pages a little more level and smooth, and somewhat less profusely sprinkled with the nobly protuberances of capitals, small capitals, and italics. The present work literally bristles with these frail supports to weak arguments; and we fear we have exemplified the proverb about evil communications corrupting good manners, for we have unconsciously drifted into an imitation—on a limited scale, to be sure—of our author in this respect, for which we crave pardon. It is so difficult to resist the influence of bad example.

By-the-by, a thought strikes us. Accepting the dictum of "Common Sense" that the earth is concave or cup-shaped on this side, and supposing the other side—for the earth *must* have another side, whatever "Common Sense" says to the contrary—to be cup-shaped also, it follows that the real shape of—yes, we must repeat the word, there is no help for it—the earth, is that of two cups placed bottom to bottom. In that case, the distance between the centre of the one concavity and that of the other cannot be very great. Could not some enterprising engineer drive us a tunnel through, so that we might settle the antipodean question to everybody's satisfaction, and see whether "Common Sense" is right in asserting that people cannot live on the earth "elsewhere than on the top on't"—that is, on his side of it.

Quotations from Shakespeare. A Collection of Passages from the Works of William Shakespeare. Selected and arranged by EDMUND ROUTLEDGE. London: Routledge and Sons.

"Though it be shame" for an Englishman to be on any but the most intimate terms with Shakespeare—that is, to be anything short of thoroughly acquainted with his works; yet as there unhappily are many men who do stand not only in this evil case of imperfect knowledge, but even of no knowledge at all of the writings of the bard "of all time," a good selection of quotations, such as that prepared by Mr. Edmund Routledge, may be of very material service in originating a desire for further acquaintance with the sources from which the passages have been culled. Even to tolerable Shakespearean scholars, to whom a ready means of verifying quotations may be desirable, this little volume will be extremely valuable. The passages quoted are arranged under the head of the plays from which they are taken; they are placed in the order of their occurrence in the play; and the name of the speaker, together with the act and scene, is attached to each. To still further facilitate reference, an index is given at the end, so that, if the leading word of a passage is remembered, the whole may at once be easily found. The selection of quotations is good, and has been made with considerable taste and judgment; and, though there are many passages which we miss, and should have liked to see here, that is only to say that, if all the good things in Shakespeare had been extracted, Mr. Routledge would have had to reprint nearly the entire works of the poet. This selection will satisfy, as it will be convenient to, most readers; and those who deem it too meagre, had better go to the plays themselves; and, having completely digested their beauties, be their own "dictionary of quotations."

Word-Paintings. In Series. London: Chapman and Hall.

Two brilliant American imaginations have given a faun and a lamia to fiction in the "Transformation" of Nathaniel Hawthorne and "Elsie Venner" of Oliver Wendell Holmes. Now, a nameless English genius is doing a similar kindness for Medusa. There are thirteen chapters in "Word Paintings," and in each one Medusa, or some modern, horrible woman with similar attributes, is in a fresh position and influencing the fates of English people or Italian people, as the case may be. At first Medusa is in the Temple of Neptune at Paestum, then in a castellated tower somewhere in our midland counties. Then she favours various kinds of public places at Rome and elsewhere, and finally makes up a fiasco behind the scenes at the opera. There is some kind of story in all this, but it is difficult to say what it means. The reader is principally arrested by the writer's rhapsodies and bad language, and in wondering whether the writer thinks the reader an idiot for proceeding with the book. Priests thundering anathemas, ferocious English brigands in Italy, English castles with rooms entirely devoted to Medusa and Perseus, and people with serpent hair and a disposition to turning for stone, seem out of place in the middle of the nineteenth century. It is a mistake, and quite in the wrong direction.

The History of Joseph. The History of Moses the Lawgiver. Illustrated by Coloured Engravings. London: Routledge and Sons.

In these little books for children we have the lives of the two most prominent personages in the early history of the Israelites delineated in series of tableaux, each picture portraying a leading incident of the life of the patriarch and lawgiver respectively. The whole are neatly printed by Messrs. Leighton Brothers in warm tints appropriate to the glowing lands in which the events befell; and are accompanied by descriptive letterpress, written in a simple and attractive style—in fact, just the Scripture narrative divested of all extraneous matter. The books are each done up in a handsome coloured wrapper, and are sure to become favourites with the young, to whom, considering the moderate price at which they are issued—one shilling each—parents, guardians, and friends will be delighted to present them.

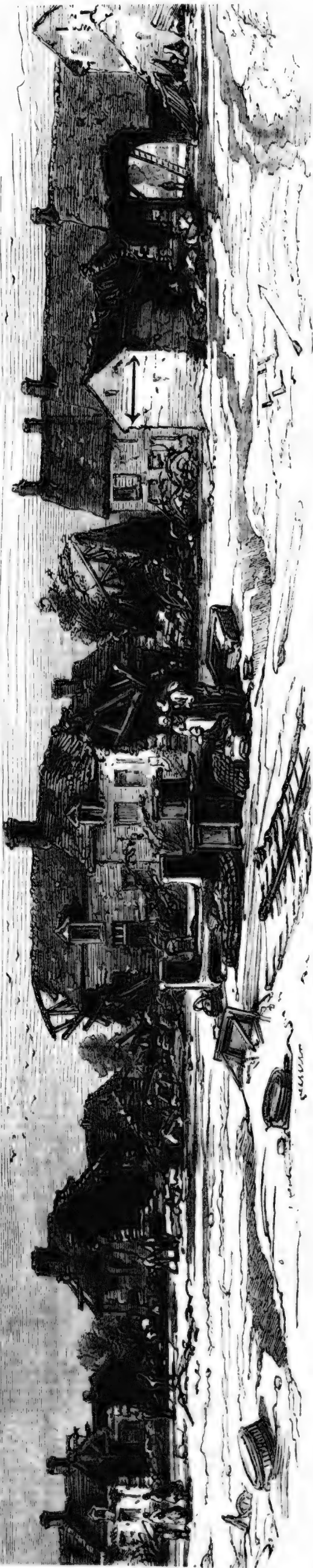
The Quiver. An Illustrated Magazine for Sunday and General Reading. London: Cassell, Petter, and Galpin.

The *Quiver* has now run a successful career for several years, and that success is the best proof of the ability with which it is conducted. The contents being of a semi-religious character, and many of the contributors members of the clerical profession (the Rev. Dr. Cumming among the number), it hardly falls within our province, simple layman as we are, to criticise minutely such a publication. Still, we may say that this portly volume—it contains no less than 832 large pages of close, yet readable, letterpress—while specially adapted for Sunday perusal, embraces matter interesting to all sorts of readers.

BYRON'S TOMB.—A number of gentlemen are actively exerting themselves with a view to the erection of some memorial to the late Lord Byron. The church at Hucknall, Torkard (Notts.), in a vault in which the poet was interred, has long been in a neglected and somewhat disreputable state, and its restoration would certainly be a very appropriate memorial of the noble poet. It has been suggested that not only should this be done, but that a public statue of the poet should also be erected in a conspicuous part of Nottingham. A preliminary meeting for promoting the above object was held on Wednesday in the Mayor's Parlour, Nottingham—Mr. T. U. Hume in the chair. A discussion took place as to the most appropriate manner in which the object should be carried out, in which the Rev. J. H. McCallan, Councillor E. P. Cox, Mr. W. Chapman, and others took part. The proposition most in favour was the erection of a bronze statue in Nottingham. Mr. Walker suggested Carlton-street (Swine-green), the scene of the noble poet's first couplet:—

"In Nottingham town, near to Swine-green,
Lived as curst an old woman as ever was seen," &c.,

as the most appropriate place. The top of Market-street was also mentioned as a proper place for the statue. The following resolutions were unanimously carried:—1. "That it is heartily desirable that an effort should be made for collecting a national subscription, with a view of erecting a memorial to Lord Byron." 2. "That it is desirable to form a provisional committee, and that Mr. Doran and Mr. Chapman be the honorary secretaries." It was then arranged to write to Lord Lytton, Lord Brougham, Sir John Bowring, Lord Brougham, Mr. Charles Dickens, and other noblemen and gentlemen for support. When replies from the above have been received a public meeting will be convened.



THE LATE INUNDATIONS IN FRANCE: THE SCENE AT THE END OF THE FAUDOURG BERRY. AT JARGEAU.

THE INUNDATIONS IN FRANCE.
Every day some fresh reports reach us of the calamities caused by the overflow of the rivers in France, and it will be long before the full extent of the suffering is known, although many of the places are within a short distance of Paris, on what were once the banks of the Seine. One of our Engravings represents a farmyard at Jargeau, a village on the left bank of the Loire, opposite St. Denis de l'Hotel. Jargeau lies considerably lower than the bed of the river, and, in crossing the bridge from the right bank, the principal street descends towards the church and the residence of the Mayor. The inundation was not entirely unexpected, and the inhabitants had been forewarned by the authorities some time; but, not believing so great a misfortune would arise, were awoke at midnight, almost wholly unprepared to meet the advancing calamity.

Happily, M. Delaëlle, the Mayor of Jargeau, and M. Desbois-Vignat, Mayor of St. Denis, had made every arrangement possible for the preservation of the inhabitants and their property. All over the plain might be seen farmers driving before them their sheep and cattle; while the horses, harnessed to their waggon, were removing such of the household furniture as could be most easily conveyed. By the morning the dyke which protected the valley gave way, and the water soon covered the vineyards where the vines had but now been so flourishing, and completely submerged the town, not, however, until the entire population, with one single exception—that of an infirm, bed-ridden woman—had escaped to St. Denis, on the right bank of the river.

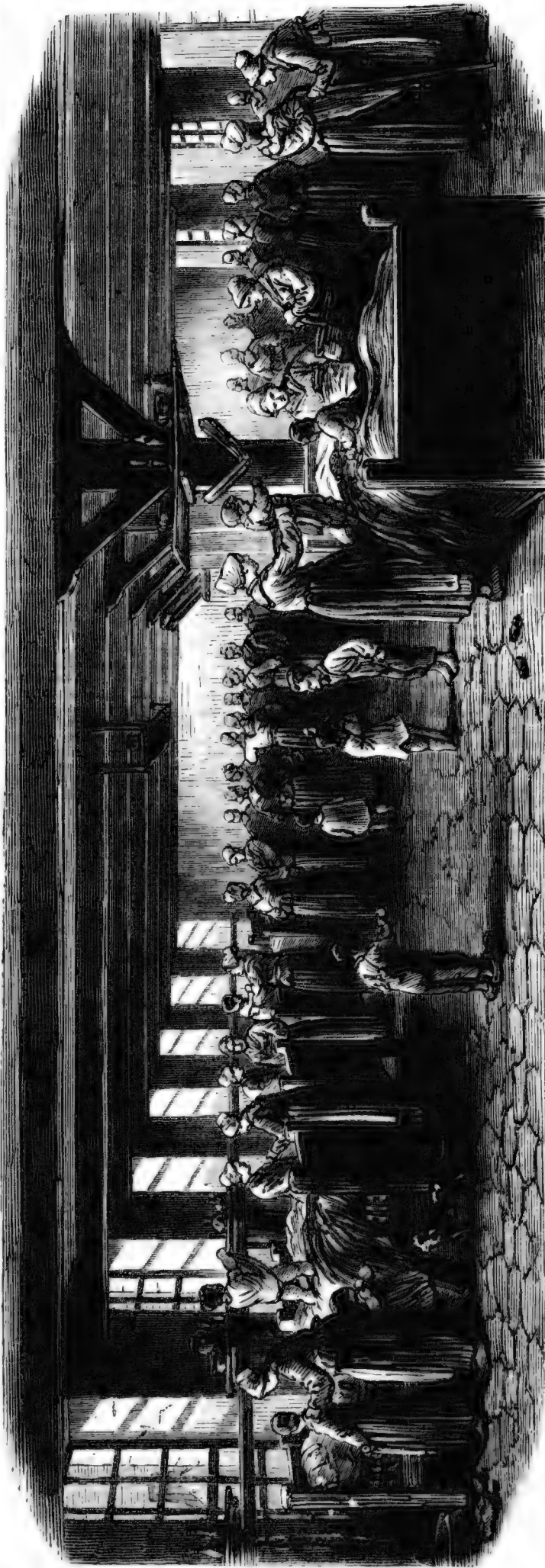
Another illustration depicts the dormitory provided in the barracks at Orleans for the houseless sufferers by floods.

The railway station at Saumur presented a singular spectacle, the carriages bearing the appearance of a new sort of piddle-boat, the wheels being almost submerged; indeed, the

whole of this district has suffered greatly. The Bishop of Orleans has brought upon himself a series of lectures, not to say invectives, for a "Pastoral Letter" which he addressed to his clergy on the occasion of the recent inundations. On this subject the Paris correspondent of the *Times* says:—"In all probability the worthy Prelate is not much dismayed or afflicted by the clamour which his epistle has raised. He loves controversy, often provokes it, and whether in attack or defence, he is not an adversary to be despised. He happened to be in Savoy for his health, which has been for some time delicate, when the waters laid the country waste. Without a moment's delay, he repaired to his post. He threw open his episcopal residence to hundreds of persons who were sud-

denly brought to destitution. They were lodged, fed, and clothed at his expense. He opened a subscription, and put his own name at the head of the list for £100, which is, we believe, little less than half his yearly income. Having thus preached by example, he addressed an appeal, such as he can so well pen, to public charity; and in a subsequent letter gave instructions, the most useful, opportune, and minute, as to the care to be taken of the victims of the inundation, and the precautions to be followed in order to prevent the evil consequences that might follow so terrible and so sudden a visitation. There was perhaps, nothing extraordinary in all this. He fulfilled what everybody admits to be merely the duty of a Christian and a prelate in such circumstances, and apparently he looked for no praise for

the performance of that duty. The Bishop, however, did something more, and it is this which has brought upon him the censure of his critics. In a subsequent letter to the priests of his diocese he took as his text not only the misfortune which had just fallen upon it, but other things which he called the 'calamities of the age,' and denounced certain doctrines which, according to him, had brought upon the present generation the severity of Divine justice. In his summary of these sins, which he considered justly provoked the anger of Heaven, there may be some items to which exception may be justly taken; but, rightly or wrongly, such calamities as widespread pestilence, long and bloody wars, famine, and the like, are considered in other Christian communities as chastisements for offences against the Almighty, and for ingratitude for His benefits. It is observed that so long as the idea of Providence is deep-rooted in the consciences of men, and while it is felt that life is a perpetual struggle, there seems nothing unreasonable or immoral in regarding the evils which occasionally afflict men as a lesson and a warning to remind them of the weakness of their own unaided efforts. In other Churches besides that of which Bishop Dupanloup is a member, forms of prayer are ordered to be recited and fasts recommended during great public calamities to appease the anger of Heaven. There did not seem to be any intention on his part to establish a specific and strict relation between the doctrines he denounces and the calamities which have lately fallen upon a great part of Europe as the immediate consequence of the promulgation of those doctrines. The real offence committed by the Bishop in the eyes of some of his critics was his attributing to Heaven any influence in the affairs of man. Inundations, wars, plagues, destruction of the products of the earth by locusts, and the like scourges have often occurred before, and will occur again. 'They are produced by natural causes,' and his critics profess to be scandalised at the irreverent



DORMITORY PROVIDED AT THE BARRACKS AT ORLEANS FOR THE SUFFERERS BY THE FLOOD.



THE LATE INUNDATIONS IN FRANCE: THE RAILWAY STATION AT SAUMUR.

manner in which God is spoken of by the Bishop. Among others who have lectured him most severely is the *Siecle*, and it takes this opportunity of propounding its own dogma—namely, that 'the independence of morals, and their complete and radical separation from every species of religious dogma, is now an accomplished fact; and that the moral direction of society no longer belongs to any Church whatever.'

THE YORKSHIRE WOLD TUMULI.

FOR some weeks past a party of archaeologists have accompanied the Rev. William Greenwell, of Durham, in a scientific examination of the sepulchral mounds of the Wolds, attributed to the pre-historic peoples who inhabited Northumbria. The rev. gentleman has had openings made in presence of Sir John Lubbock, the late president of the Ethnological Society; Mr. Fairless Barber, of Castle-hill; Mr. Rastrick, President of the Huddersfield Archaeological Society; Mr. J. W. Barnes, of Durham; Mr. J. Burgess, of Brighouse; the Rev. Frederick Porter, of Yedingham; the Rev. J. Mason, of Sherburn; the Rev. Mr. Heslop, of Weaverthorpe; Mr. George Pycock, of Malton; and Mr. Southwell, of Winchester, Illinois, United States, the last-named gentleman giving valuable information respecting the burial customs of the Indian tribes, and pointing out analogy between them and those shown by the exhumation of British burials. Much interest has been aroused in the work, and the "diggings" have been daily visited by the gentry of the district and several ladies.

Considerable discussion has resulted from the discoveries made in the spring of the present year by the Rev. Mr. Porter and Mr. Monkman in the barrows of the Sherburn Wolds; those barrows yielding, in addition to the usual undisturbed and contracted burials of the Britons, strange deposits on their eastern sides of broken-up human bodies, evidently dismembered before burial. The theory of cannibalism among the Britons was supposed to have received another confirmation by these discoveries, and, with a view to push the investigation, the one remaining barrow on the same wold was first opened. Strangely enough, this barrow yielded nothing but traces of fire, one fragment of human bone, and six or eight

"scrapers," or "thumb-flints," strewn among the soil composing it and the examination of three houses on the adjoining wold yielded no better results; the contents, in fact, had been completely destroyed by those destructive implements, the drag-harrow and the plough. As regarded the peculiar feature sought, the openings on the Sherburn Wold were a failure.

The next openings were made in the "Hone-hill Field," on Ganton Wold, near Scarborough, the property of Sir Charles Legard. Here, many years ago, one of the largest of three tumuli had been carted away for "marling" the land, and, from what can be gathered, that tumulus was very rich in both burials, urns, and implements. One very fine urn was taken possession of by the late Mr. Alexander, and Mr. Fairless Barber has traced it to the Halifax Museum, where it now is; and that gentleman is searching for notes on the tumulus among Mr. Alexander's papers. The two remaining barrows have been opened by Mr. Greenwell and his friends. They were composed of a peculiarly unctuous black earth, altogether different from any wold soil. What this is must be determined by analysis and microscopic examination. Both tumuli contained several burials, both by inhumation and cremation. The former were in all cases in the now well-understood doubled-up British fashion, and in both houses parts of bodies were found; but it was satisfactorily made out by the section that a cut had been made near the centre of each, either to seek treasure or place in a later interment. The skulls obtained were so much crushed that Mr. Greenwell will be some time before he can get them rebuilt so as to show the type of cranium. So far as could be judged, however, they were all of the brachycephalous, or later type, and of a singularly poor people, only a few flint implements, and these, with one exception, of little value, being found. Both kinds of pottery, plain and thong marked, were found, and also the cinerary urn of the cremation period, the burnt burials being secondary.

The first tumulus opened on Ganton Wold was sixteen yards in diameter, and had an altitude of 3 ft., though much ploughed down. The opening was made from the south-east side, in the hope of finding the expected deposit of broken-up bodies. The only object found, however, was part of a red deer's horn. In the centre of the house, 1½ ft. below the present surface, a deposit of burnt bones was

found. These were of two bodies at least, and had been inclosed originally in a cinerary urn, of which fragments were found, showing it to have been enriched by alternate horizontal and vertical thong-markings, both inside and outside the lip. Among the burnt bones were some unburnt parts of a third body, and in the mass a very beautiful flint knife, which had been taken from the matrix at one slice, and finely worked over the upper edges. This was made of a very transparent, warm-tinted flint, not at all usual. It was quite clear that this interment had been disturbed and subsequently replaced. Immediately below this cremated secondary deposit, on the plane of the barrow, an unburnt body was found (one of the primary interments, if not the primary one), lying on its right side, with the head to the east, the body contracted, and with it a piece of skull of another body. This interment was of a male, the left hand being on the knees and the right arm by the side. Nothing was found with this interment. Due east of the body, and about 3 ft. distant, one of those perplexing holes into the rock was found, which, as usual, contained nothing but dark earth. Signs of a similar hole on the west were visible; but, as these curious excavations have been so frequently fruitlessly explored, it was passed over. It has been suggested that where pottery is not found these holes in the rock have been formed for the deposit of food for the deceased. These holes have been also found in the Wiltshire barrows, and are always barren. Immediately over this hole, however, and 8 in. below the surface, parts of a plain urn were found, evidently not in the original position. On the other side of the primary interment—i.e., 4 ft. due west of it and 2 ft. above the natural surface—the body of a woman was found on its right side, the hands touching the teeth and the legs drawn up to the elbows. This was an inserted burial, and there was much charcoal about the pelvis and the femur. Some fragments of a highly decorated urn were near the head, and from before the chest a beautifully wrought and polished button of jet was taken. Originally this house contained two primary interments, one of which seems to have been destroyed by digging from the top. The interments formed a line east and west.

The second tumulus lay about 30 yards to the north. This was 25 yards in diameter and about 3 ft. high, and now considerably reduced in altitude. This opening was again from the south-east



INTERIOR OF A COURTYARD AT JARGEAU, ORLEANS.

One foot above the natural surface and 18 ft. south (just a turn east) of centre, a body was met with, laid on its right side, but so decayed that the position was not traceable. Behind the pelvis a rude thumb flint was found, and close to the body parts of a "drinking-cup"—perhaps destroyed by the plough. Seven feet S.S.W. of centre, and 2 ft. above the natural ground, a deposit of burnt human bones was found placed in a circular heap. About 6 yards W.S.W. of centre another burnt body was found, placed in a cinerary urn; but, being only some 8 in. deep was much ploughed away. These were all secondary interments, and of a later date than the curious mass of bodies to be now described. On the plane of the barrow, and to the south side of the present centre, but, doubtless, at the original centre when the house was raised, were several unburnt burials, all in the contracted form, and huddled together in a most singular manner. These were the original interments, but a cut from the top had disturbed some, the portions of bodies so disturbed being met with thrown in casually among the upper earth. The first interment exposed was lying on its right side, about 7 ft. S.W. by S. of centre. The legs were curiously crossed, right to left, and vice versa the feet being bent back under the pelvic bones. The head was to the east, but the arms were so decayed that their position could not be made out. The skull was much broken, and almost gone by decay. A second body was found laid on the east of the last, the drawn-up knees being close to the head of No. 1. The femurs of this body had been broken, and had curiously united by necrosis of the bone, giving the appearance of oblique fractures. This formed an interesting study for the medical men present. The body was on the right side, with the head to the west, and hands up to the face. A third body had the head lying on the feet of No. 2, the head being to the N.W. The hands were in front of the chest, the bones of the right hand clasping the bones of the left. The whole of this skull was doubled-up bones of the left. The whole of this skull was obtained, and will be rebuilt. The legs of this body had gone, removed, doubtless, during the disturbance from the top. To the east of the last skeleton a great number of broken human bones and skulls were found, evidently disturbed by digging for treasure, or for introduction of later interment. Among the bodies disturbed had been that of a child. Among the bones were fragments of a highly ornate drinking-cup and a bone pin 5 in. long. A sandstone pounder and a mass of foreign flint from which flakes had been struck, were also found; and close by—S.E. of centre—a body broken up and strangely mixed with the skull upside down was found, and with it one flint flake, one flint flake serrated (a saw), and one finely pointed flake, were found, all deposited near the chest. The head was to the east, and the body was on the right side; some degree of order remaining to show this, and proving that only partial disturbance had occurred. This burial was the richest in accompaniments of any in the two Ganton barrows. A fourth undisturbed body was found on the west of the others, the knees drawn up and touching the head of the cross-legged body (No. 1). This was on its right side, with head to N.W. The skull was in good condition, and showed the round or brachycephalous type. The left hand was under the head and the right hand in front of the chest. Behind the head was an urn, quite plain, very red and rotten—the pieces, indeed, were simply plastic clay. Just south of this urn a fifth body was found, on the right side, the shoulder-blade touching the urn. The head was to the N.E., the right hand up to the face and the left under the head. The knees were drawn up. It was difficult to determine whether the urn had been deposited with this body or with No. 4. Eight feet west of the centre an oval hole, 4 ft. by 2 ft. 6 in., dug into the chalk, was found, containing nothing. Just north of centre a red deer's horn was found, but without reference to any interment. Contrary to the usual custom, this barrow had been built in a natural hollow, thus appearing less than it actually was. With the exception of one core of black flint, there was no implement cast into the mound, nor were there many traces of burning.

Openings of a far more interesting nature, as regards weapons, are being carried on in Sir Tatton Sykes' Weatherthorpe estates, of which details will appear in our next Number.

IMPROVEMENT OF LIVERPOOL.

THE rate at which the work of improvement is progressing on both sides of the Mersey is occasionally seen by the large amounts of money required to push them forward. The sums expended during the past twenty years on public works in Liverpool, Birkenhead, and the adjoining townships, may be counted by millions. The grand totals of every year have required heavy additions to be made to them. Just now the improvement committee of the Liverpool Town Council, independently of the large sums already authorised to be expended in the formation of new parks, the building of working men's dwellings, the completion of the new public offices, and other works in progress, are proposing to expend upwards of £300,000 in the widening of streets in the town and the opening out of leading thoroughfares connecting main streets with districts not long since "truly rural," but which are rapidly losing their suburban features; the Docks and Harbour Board are about to apply to Parliament for powers to borrow £334,913 for reconstructions of works previously authorised; £1,100,000 for the completion of docks and warehouses and other works now in operation, and for the purchase of land for the erection of warehouses, and for other contemplated dock improvements; while our neighbours of Wallasey, across the water, have also decided to apply to Parliament for powers to borrow something like £100,000 for the construction of a new ferry and for carrying out such improvements as the wants of the district demand. The new works suggested in these three directions involve the expenditure of a million and a half of money; and they do not include many great public improvements, as the carrying out of some such comprehensive plan as that of Mr. Lyster, the dock engineer, for the improvement of the approaches to the landing-stages, the construction of the much-wanted public salt-water baths, the opening out of the courts in the overcrowded districts, and the construction of sewage works consequent on a systematic and general substitution, on the London plan, of water-closets for the disgraceful midden system, the existence of which in Liverpool, as in Manchester, is indicated by an excessive death-rate. We are glad to see, however, that the health committee are opening their eyes, though still but drowsily, to the importance of taking early steps to remove this last-named reproach from the town. A suggestion that the committee should apply to Parliament for powers to compel the owners of house property to convert the privies on their premises into water-closets, the cost of drainage necessary in the conversion to be defrayed out of the rates, has been referred to the general purposes committee, where it will, no doubt, be fully discussed.—*Liverpool Albion*.

MARRIAGES IN HIGH LIFE.—A matrimonial alliance is arranged to take place between Earl Beauchamp and Miss Hamilton, daughter of Mr. and Lady Mary Nisbet Hamilton. A marriage is arranged between the Master of Lovat and Miss Alice Weld Blundell, daughter of Mr. J. Weld Blundell. Of Ince Blundell.—A marriage is shortly to take place between Mr. Robert Hamilton Grant Irvine and the Hon. S. bil Devereux, daughter of the late Rev. Viscount Hereford, and sister of the present Viscount.

THREATENED STRIKE OF "STABLE BOYS" AT WENTWORTH WOODHOUSE.—A novel thing in strikes is just reported. The stable-boys in the service of Earl Fitzwilliam, of Wentworth Woodhouse, have conceived the idea that they are underpaid, and accordingly the other day they marshalled themselves, and, armed with their brooms and shovels, made an application for an advance of 3s. per week. This not being conceded, they threaten that if their requirements are not met they will go "out on strike." The little army who are thus "standing out" are said to be between twenty and thirty in number.

A SUBJECT FOR ANTIQUARIES.—The excavations at London-wall have led to a discovery interesting to antiquaries. The workmen, having reached a depth of about 30 ft., came upon a quantity of the bones of horses, oxen, and deer, whose horns are in a high state of preservation; also, a great number of large goats' horns, attached to portions of the skulls, and one or two pieces of the jaw of the wild boar with tusks in them. Some spear-heads, partly decayed, and armed at the end with horn, were among the bones. Above twenty cartloads of the bones have been taken out, and they are continually being dug out. The space which those at present obtained occupied is about 40 ft. square.

NEW PUNISHMENT FOR DRUNKARDS.—A bill has passed the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, and was under discussion in the Legislative Council when the last mail left, providing that any habitual drunkard who has been thrice within the preceding twelve months convicted of being found drunk in the highway, may, if found drunk and disorderly in public, be committed by the magistrate to the workhouse, and there kept until the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, shall order his discharge. The superintendent of the workhouse is to have the power of punishment, not exceeding seven days' close confinement, in order to maintain discipline. It was intimated that in committee a system of official visitation of workhouses would be proposed in lieu of leaving these inmates to appeal to the council.

OPERA, CONCERTS, AND NEW MUSIC.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE is about to open for a winter season. The 1866-7 series of Moulday Popular Concerts are to commence Nov. 5. In the meanwhile, we have a sort of semi-musical performance to notice at Drury Lane, where a new version of "Faust," by Mr. Bayle Bernard, has just been brought out. The musical illustrations by which the new adaptation is enlivened are chiefly selected from Spohr, who, according to Mr. Bayle Bernard, is looked upon in Germany as "Goethe's best interpreter." But the fact is, Spohr's hero is less the Faust of Goethe than the Dr. Faustus of Marlowe's play, and indeed of all the innumerable legends and plays on the same subject by which Goethe's drama was preceded. If at this moment the principal features of the story of "Faust," as treated by Goethe, are well known to thousands and ten of thousands of persons in England who knew nothing about them five years ago, that result is due, above all, to Gounod's music. Without believing this music to be worthy of the poem that inspired it—and it would be less unfair to set down M. Gounod side by side with M. Michel Carré than to elevate him to the level of Goethe—it has so identified itself with certain situations in the drama that we cannot help missing (for instance) "Salve dimora," and the exquisite duet in the garden scene, now that that scene is spoken instead of being sung; while the tableau of the market-place, wanting the familiar waltz, has the effect of a well-known picture in which all the colouring is false. Those who knew the drama of "Faust" chiefly from Gounod's opera, will understand what Mr. Bayle Bernard's adaptation is like, if they imagine the rapid "words" of the libretto replaced by vigorous, well-turned lines, modelled faithfully, but not too exactly, on those of Goethe. Of course, not a note of M. Gounod's music is to be heard; nor—equally, as a matter of course—are we troubled with the unmeaning part of "Siebel," invented by M. Gounod's librettists simply for the purpose of furnishing the composer with an extra "part." There is also this important difference between the opera of "Faust" and the drama as arranged by Mr. Bayle Bernard—that in the latter the scene of the Walpurgis night is retained. In other respects the new drama is the well-known opera, with Goethe's poetry resubstituted for M. Gounod's music. Take away the Walpurgis-night scene, and the *scenario* of the two productions is almost identical. We must add that this scene, as regards painting, grouping, and general effect, in a dramatic point of view, is one of the most admirable ever presented on the stage. Mendelssohn's wild, thoroughly appropriate music enhances its value in a remarkable manner, and gives it something like poetic completeness.

Mr. Alfred Mellon seems fully aware of the responsibility that rests upon him as the one concert-giver in a vast metropolis, whose inhabitants are accused (perhaps somewhat unjustly) of being immoderately addicted to musical entertainments. His programmes follow, but do not resemble, one another. Each night brings with it a change of some kind, while a whole week rarely passes without some novelty of importance being brought forward. The "Masaniello" selection had scarcely lost its attractiveness when the orchestral fantasia on airs from "Mosé in Egitto" was produced. Mlle. Krebs finishes her series of performances one week, and the next is replaced by Signor Tito Mattel, who is at present Mr. Mellon's leading pianist. Mlle. Carlotta Patti is still the principal vocalist; but if the "ballad concerts," of which only one has hitherto been given, are continued, Mr. Mellon will need the services of nearly all the singers who yet remain in town. Mlles. Emilie and Constance Georgi, Mr. Leigh Wilson, Signor Caravoglia, and Mr. Alfred Hemming, may be mentioned among those who have from time to time been heard at these concerts during the last week or two. The excellent custom of devoting the first part of the concert on certain nights to the compositions of some one great master, is faithfully adhered to. Thus Thursday's programme included, together with other works by Beethoven, the "Eroica" symphony and the overture to "Egmont."

In our notice, a few weeks ago, of some compositions recently issued by Messrs. Boosey and Co., we ought to have called attention to two new songs by Miss Elizabeth Philp. The first of them—"Tis all that I can say"—is a very melodious setting of the well-known verses by Thomas Hood commencing, "I love thee; yes, I love thee." In the second, "When all the world is young," some vigorous lines by Mr. Kingsley are furnished with appropriate music. The second verse contrasts well with the first, one being as full of sentiment as the other is of spirit.

PROPOSED ALTERATION OF THE MILITIA SYSTEM.—The Marquis of Salisbury has addressed to the Secretary of State for War a letter, suggesting a plan for the modification and extension of the militia system, so as to render it more available as a permanent defensive force. By an Act of 1860, it was remarked, power was given to commute the personal obligation of those who were fit to bear arms to serve into a local tax upon the community; and this principle was distinctly recognised. Clause 10 of the 22nd and 23rd Victoria, cap. 126, having given full power to parishes to adopt this mode of providing their quota of men, the noble Marquis thinks it should be rendered imperative to adopt this mode of levying men, arguing that this would remove the oppression upon a particular class which must accompany any system of conscription, and be at the same time a saving of large expense to the public purse and a great diminution of the local taxation incident upon raising a militia force. It is suggested that the poor-law union system should be used for the purpose of supplying the quota; that the present retaining fee to the volunteer militia should be paid frequently in order to secure that the men may be forthcoming when wanted; that the men should be mustered once in every quarter in their respective divisions; and that the penalties upon unions for not furnishing the quota to which parishes are liable should be rigidly enforced. The noble Marquis observes, under existing circumstances it would not be prudent to restrict the number of men for England to less than 200,000, and a proportionate number for Scotland and Ireland.

IMPROVEMENTS IN OUR SYSTEM OF CAMPING.—The histories of the Crimean War and of the Indian mutiny afford abundant uncontradicted evidence that the diseases of which the devastating effects are felt in our camps during times of active service are fever, dysentery, diarrhoea, and pulmonary affections. Most of these are actually generated by the continued exposure consequent on sleeping on the ground; and for many years it has been a source of anxiety to those who make the sanitary condition of our Army an object of interest and study to discover some means by which the evils which have hitherto attended on our soldiers when under canvas could be remedied or diminished. The subject has been under the consideration of many eminent officers and civilians, and, among others, Lord De Ros, some time ago, invented a tent with a projecting eave, which is considered a great improvement on the structures formerly employed. In 1863 Captain M'Gwire submitted to several of the military authorities another improved tent with a most important addition. He substituted for the ordinary field-blanket a field-hammock, which keeps the man who uses it off the ground, and also provides him with a comfortable bed. The difficulty in the way of the adoption of this arrangement appears to be the additional weight to be carried by the soldier, as the hammock is 3 lb. heavier than the ordinary field blanket. This, however, can form but a small obstacle in the way (3 lb. is just the difference between the weight of the old musket and that of the Enfield rifle), considering the many advantages which the new invention affords. The tent is an old-pattern tent enlarged, very roomy and comfortable, the door being fastened with straps and white-metal buckles, which method is much preferred to that of using books and lace, as adopted in Lord De Ros's plan. The great novelty, however, of the invention of Captain M'Gwire consists in the introduction of the field-hammock to which we have alluded. Experiments have been made to test its qualities at various times at the Curragh, and within the last month at Aldershot, with such favourable results that the Royal Horse Artillery, the 10th Hussars, the 4th Fusiliers, and other regiments have the tents and hammocks now in use, and report most favourably as to their adaptability for providing against damp and cold. The cost of modifying the present camp equipage so as to suit the new system is only 5s. or 6s. per tent, so that the objection of being expensive cannot be urged against it. By increasing the radius of the ordinary bell-tents 8 in., ten men can be readily accommodated in each inclosure, the heads of the hammocks which face outwards being at the same time 40 in. apart. The bed can be pitched in a few minutes, the occupant is always off the ground, and the heads of the men are considerably raised above the draught from under the curtain of the tent. Too long has this branch of sanitary reform been neglected in the Army, and it is to be hoped that it will now at last receive the anxious consideration which its condition demands. When it is remembered that by camp diseases alone an annual expenditure of £388,000 is occasioned in British India, it will be seen that the question is one of importance, not only to those whom it immediately concerns, but also to those who desire the retrenchment of our national expenditure and the comfort of the defenders of our national honour.

TERRIBLE DISASTER AT SEA.

THE steamship Evening Star, which left New York on the 29th of September, for New Orleans, has foundered at sea. The *Savannah News* of the 9th inst. gives the following details of this dreadful disaster:—"The Evening Star on the 2nd encountered a severe gale, which commenced at two o'clock in the afternoon, when she was 180 miles east of Tybee Island. After weathering the storm some seventeen hours, she foundered at six a.m. on the 3rd, with 270 souls on board. Only seventeen persons are known to have been saved. It seems there were only three or four life-boats on board, in one of which the chief engineer, purser, six of the crew, and two passengers succeeded, after capsizing several times, in keeping afloat until picked up by the Norwegian barque Fleetwing, from which they were transferred to the schooner S. J. Warring, and arrived here last evening. The following is a list of those saved on the purser's book:—Robert Finger, chief engineer; Ellery S. Allan, purser; John Lang, water-tender; Frederick Shaffer, coal-passer; George Smith, seaman; John Powers, seaman; Dennis Garmon, waiter; Rowland Stevens, waiter; Edward Lamer and S. H. Harris, passengers. The second boat took sixteen persons from the steamer, among whom were the captain and third mate. This boat capsized twelve or fifteen times. The captain was lost on the fourth time. This boat arrived at Fernandina on Sunday morning, with six persons and two dead bodies on board. The following are the survivors in this boat:—Thomas Fitzpatrick, third mate; John Dempsey, seaman; John Campbell, seaman; James Howe, seaman; Chancellor Mason, steerage steward; Frank Gerard, passenger. Among the passengers were the opera troupe of Paul Alharza, which arrived here just before the sailing of the Evening Star, on the steamer Ville de Paris, from France. There were fifty-nine members of the troupe. Spaulding's circus company of thirty persons also took passage on the Evening Star. They had, it is said, all their paraphernalia, but no horses. The crew numbered sixty-five persons."

At New Orleans the appalling disaster to the Evening Star was the chief topic for remark. The entire community is deeply moved by the intelligence and it is impossible to express the depth of the sorrow caused there by this sudden and terrible visitation. The subjoined account gives an idea of the hurricane which foundered the Evening Star:—"During the first days of the voyage the weather was mild and agreeable, with now and again slight breezes, which were more refreshing and pleasant than uncomfortable or threatening. Towards the morning of the second day the wind became a little stronger, filling the sails with a stiff breeze, which increased in the afternoon, at which time a pretty fair gale was blowing, causing the steam-ship to roll very heavily, but not so as to create any apprehension in the minds of the passengers or crew, many of whom were used to such on the Georgian coast. The wind continued at about the same strength all during this day, neither increasing nor changing until the morning of the 1st, when a very strong gale, but still nothing alarming, began to blow. The ship still continued to roll, obliging the passengers, especially the ladies, to leave the deck and retire to the cabin. Things now began to look ominous. The breeze still freshened, the clouds looked gloomy; sails were taken in, and every preparation made for the coming storm, which now to even an inexperienced eye seemed inevitable. The wind continued all the afternoon to blow stronger and stronger. Night came on, and still no change for the better. A strong gale then was blowing, with nothing but darkness, solid darkness, all round; no view to cheer, nothing to remind the terrified passengers of the deep sea over which they rode but the foam of the spray which came in showers over the deck. At last towards midnight, the dreaded hour arrived, and then with all its wildest fury the hurricane burst upon the trembling ship, which rocked and pitched about like a tiny boat, every timber of which threatened to come asunder each moment. The fury of the hurricane was fearful, terrific, and appalling—so much so, that it might be reasonably expected that Nature would exhaust herself; but no, alas! no, for the doomed ship and her living freight, it continued with all the fury of a demon proud of its strength, and feasting over the sad desolation which was so soon to follow. At last day breaks, but still the storm was there and continued with remorseless force all through the day, the gallant steamer fighting as brave as brave could be, but the fight was unequal. On came one fearful gust—came furiously along, disturbing the waters with fearful violence. Then one heavy sea strikes the hull of the ship, and all is over with the Evening Star and all on board. She struggled for a while, but only like the faintest gasps of death, or the last flickers of the dying lamp, to give one last wild throes and then down to be seen no more, the victim of one of the most severe storms that has visited the coast of Georgia for many years, and which has caused more marine disasters than have taken place for some time; for, in addition to the deplorable loss now chronicled, there also went down in the same wild storm, which seemed to be general along the western and southern coast, the Daniel Webster, bound from New York to Mobile, the crew and passengers, eighteen of which were providentially saved by the ship Cromwell; also the Mary M'Koe, of Philadelphia; and the Minnehaha, from Savannah to Richmond. The steamer Santiago di Cuba was also seriously injured."

THE RULING OCCUPATION STRONG ON SUNDAY.—In an Episcopal church in the north, not one hundred miles from Keith, a porter employed during the week at the railway station does duty on Sunday by blowing the bellows of the organ. The other Sunday, wearied by the long hours of railway attendance, combined, it may be, with the soporific effects of a dull sermon, he fell sound asleep during the service, and so remained when the pealing of the organ was required. He was suddenly and rather rudely awakened by another official when apparently dreaming of an approaching train, as he started to his feet and roared out, with all the force and shrillness of stentorian lungs and habit, "Change here for Elgin, Lossiemouth, and Burgh!" The effect upon the congregation, sitting in expectation of a concord of sweet sounds, may be imagined—it is unnecessary to describe it.—*Dumfries Courier*.

"BOTTLING" A PROSECUTOR.—A novel mode of ending a prosecution has been revealed at the Staffordshire Quarter Sessions in an application for the discharge of a person named Robson from Stafford gaol. Robson was last year a farmer in Cheshire, and several head of cattle had been stolen from his farm by some cattle-dealers, who were apprehended and committed for trial to Knutsford Sessions, where, as the prosecutor did not appear, his recognisances were estreated and the prisoners were discharged. Two months ago Robson was met in Staffordshire by an officer to whom he was known, and was lodged in Stafford gaol under the order of estreat. It is now known that friends of the cattle-dealers, immediately after the commitment to Knutsford, not only tampered with the witnesses, but even offered a large bribe to the attorneys for the prosecution. Not content with this, they induced Robson to go to Liverpool, where they plied him with drink, took him on board a steamer, accompanied him to Queenstown, and there left the vessel, the result being that Robson, when he came to his senses, found himself irretrievably booked for a voyage to America, and without means to enable him to return. Having secured sufficient for this purpose, he came back to England, and was soon after lodged in prison. These circumstances being stated to the Court, the chairman said that he did not see how he could interfere, and advised that a memorial should be sent to the Lords of the Treasury.

GRATITUDE OF A SHIPWRECKED CREW.—A few nights ago the life-boat Sir George Bowles, stationed at Howth, near Dublin, was the means of saving during a gale of wind the crew, consisting of eight persons, of the smack Favorite, of Peel, Isle of Man. The master of the smack had addressed the following letter to the National Life-boat Institution, expressing the gratitude of himself and crew for the valuable services of the life-boat on the occasion in question:—"Howth Harbour, Oct. 20, 1866. Gentlemen,—Myself and crew, consisting of seven men and a boy, do sincerely thank Almighty God, and heartily thank the coxswain and crew of your life-boat at Howth, for saving us from perishing on the morning of Oct. 17. No one but those in such a perilous position would truly appreciate the value of a life-boat; we showed signals with our flambeau until it and ourselves were exhausted, and as a last resource we burnt our beds. The night was so dark and such a raging surf, nothing but broken water to be seen, we did not think it possible any boat could live, or be able to come near us, neither did we see the life-boat until she struck us on the lee bow. After a desperate effort made by the crew of the life-boat they at last succeeded in throwing a grapple on board, the coxswain calling out to us not to jump until the boat rose on a sea. Great praise is due to the coxswain and crew of the life-boat, who, under God's providence, landed us in safety at half-past five in the morning. We received every kindness from the coastguard, who supplied us with dry clothing, &c.—I am, &c., JOHN GILL, Master of the fishing-lugger Favorite, of Peel. To the Committee of the National Life-boat Institution."

LAW AND CRIME.

A DEFECT, or, rather, a useless excrescence (which, after all, is much the same thing), of our coroner's inquest system has been strikingly exemplified in two important cases during the last few days. In one, the inquiry related to the death of a woman, killed by her husband. He had previously threatened her life. He had subjected her to a continuous course of beating and kicking, and had announced that he intended to be the death of her within five days. Within five days he dragged her out of bed, and took her life by beating and kicking her with more than usual violence. On proof of these facts the Coroner's jury returned a verdict of "Aggravated manslaughter." The Coroner informed them that the verdict could only be one of manslaughter, and that the question of aggravation would be one for the Judge in considering sentence. While all this was being considered, and being decided after a fashion, of which we shall have more to say hereafter, the magistrate before whom the prisoner ought to have been at that precise time was waiting in an empty court. The Coroner had required the attendance of the accused, and a Home-Office warrant had authorised his being taken before the jury accordingly. In this and similar cases, which are, unfortunately, frequent enough, two points arise: firstly, it may well be questioned whether the Coroner and his jury have any business whatever to inquire into the degree of a homicide; A has been killed by B, and not accidentally—that is all the information which the public requires on such occasions as these from a coroner's jury; but, instead of this, we are compelled to suffer a degradation of the law by its being continually brought into contempt in these matters. The Coroner usually, as in this instance, a medical gentleman—takes it upon himself to instruct, at an hour's notice, some dozen tradesmen, summoned at random by a beadle, on the legal distinction between murder and manslaughter. If he could do so, supposing the instruction also to be needful and valuable, no one need complain. But, firstly, he cannot; for this distinction is one of the greatest of legal difficulties. It is one upon which Judges constantly differ from each other, and in which probably all would differ from a coroner who directs a jury that they may return a verdict of manslaughter against a ruffian who has deliberately vowed to put an end to his wife's life, and who does so within the number, not of minutes but of days, predicted by himself. He kills her by the most brutal means in his power; and yet a Coroner's jury returns a verdict of manslaughter! The crime is murder, if anything. What is the use of this jury's returning this absurd verdict? It will not be considered or even tendered in evidence if the prisoner be indicted for wilful murder, as he may be, upon the magistrate's committal, the verdict at the inquest notwithstanding.

In another case a fellow had vowed vengeance against a neighbour, whose head he swore to smash in for some offence, real or supposed. Some nights afterwards the threatened man was awakened from his bed by a disturbance in the street. He dressed hastily and descended, and was at once assaulted by a woman armed with a broom-stake. The victim was disarmed by a bystander, when her husband, who had taken part in the original fray, ran into his house and brought out a hammer, with which he literally smashed in his neighbour's skull. The homicide was the man who had sworn to commit the crime. Nevertheless, a Coroner's jury returned a verdict of "Manslaughter."

James Wardell, a house painter, was charged with having wilfully damaged pictures belonging to Miss Burdett Coutts, at whose house he had been employed, in the service of Messrs. Banting. It was shown that the pictures had been thrust through with a knife, of a peculiar curved shape, and that such a knife had been used by the prisoner in his work. One of the most curious features of the case was the conduct of the prisoner on being first accused of the offence. He uttered a solemn adjuration, wishing that he might be struck dead or blind, if guilty. The next moment he fell back into such a terrible fit that his fellow-workmen, thinking him mortally affected, exclaimed, "This is guilt!" Upon the evidence adduced before the magistrate the prisoner was remanded.

A little child—a baby, in fact—only four years of age, wandering along by a brick wall belonging to the Marquis of Salisbury, amused himself by scraping, with a ragged piece of broken iron hoop, the mortar in the interstices of the wall of his Lordship's park. The poor little infant was brought before the magistrates at Hertford on a summons taken out by a constable, who obtained it on representing the defendant to be eight years old. On the facts being made apparent, the magistrates censured the constable and discharged the child.

An inquest was held by Dr. Lankester on the body of a little boy who had been burned to death. The child was only three years of age, and had burned himself in attempting to warm his shirt, while wearing it, before the fire. It is almost incredible that Dr. Lankester should have used the expression attributed to him by the reporter—namely, that the child "had apparently been an experimental philosopher," but that "some children were born to be burned!"

A man named Johnson was sometime since convicted of selling piratical photographs of copyright pictures, and was mulcted in penalties amounting to £80. He was unable to pay, was committed to Whitecross-street prison, and petitioned the Bankruptcy Court. The question (to which we adverted a week or two since) was raised as to whether the penalties could be considered as a debt; but Commissioner Winslow held that they might be so considered, and be legally provable under the bankruptcy; consequently that the Court had jurisdiction to order the prisoner's release.

The man Moses Moses, upon whose premises (when searched by the police upon his own complaint of a burglary having been committed thereon) an enormous quantity of stolen goods was found, has been again brought before the magistrate. Several owners of property, in addition to the claimants upon a previous occasion, attended to identify their goods, and the prisoner was again remanded.

POLICE.

NO REMEDY AGAINST THE POLICE.—A young man applied for a summons against two constables, stating that in the morning, when within a few doors of his house, the constables accosted him and struck him several violent blows. He had given them no provocation, and though his brother was in trouble he did not think that would justify the police in assaulting him.

Mr. Barker asked the applicant if he had applied at Scotland-yard about the matter.

The applicant said he had not, but had come here for a summons.

Mr. Barker said the applicant must communicate with the authorities at Scotland-yard, and if they thought the constables were in the wrong they would direct an inspector to apply for a summons.

The applicant left the court muttering.

NOT SATISFACTORY.—Henry Ellerman, a marine-store dealer, of Artillery-passage, Bishopsgate, a thoroughfare closely abutting on Petticoat Lane, was charged by the police with having stolen property in his possession.

Two constables of the H division went to the prisoner's house, and, having plainly told him that they purposed searching for stolen property, proceeded so to do. Metal in bars; new linen, never unfolded, and in what is termed a "piece;" publican's old pots; a new brass cap, for engine work, found in a teapot; a copper cap, sash-weights, about sixty yards of canvas, and a variety of articles, were taken from different places. Prisoner could not give any account of how he came by them, and, when required to show his books, said that he did not keep any, which was not satisfactory.

Mr. Beard sharply questioned the officers as to what particular property they went after, and who had given information to them respecting it.

Fordham said they were in search of the canvas mentioned, but refused to give up his authority at present. After a remand, it would then be identified as having been stolen.

Mr. Beard observed that there was always great difficulty in satisfying the police. Indeed, nothing would satisfy some of them. He, however, had had a personal knowledge of the prisoner for a considerable time past; he was a foreigner, and most probably ignorant of the fact that he should keep books of purchase and sale.

After some further observations to the like effect, prisoner was remanded on bail.

STEALING PROPERTY FROM VEHICLES.—Joseph Gill, a notorious and daring thief, one of a gang of notorious "rogue-men," who carry on a successful system of robbery from railway vans and cabs and commercial travellers' traps, was finally examined before Mr. Elliott on a charge of stealing a portmanteau and a large parcel containing bolts, of the value of £68, from a trap belonging to Mr. William London, a boot manufacturer, carrying on business in Commercial-road East.

The prosecutor said that, on the evening of that day fortnight, the property produced was taken from the oak part of his trap while driving along Newington-causeway.

Joseph Pryor, 164 L, said that, on the evening in question, he was in the London road, and saw prisoner and another approaching him, the prisoner having a sack on his shoulder. The moment they caught sight of him the prisoner dropped the sack and both bolted off as fast as they could. He gave them chase up and down several streets, and the prisoner effected his escape in the intricacies of the St. George's Market. Witness was perfectly certain he was the man who was carrying the sack containing the property, for he knew him for some time as a thief and the associate of notorious thieves.

Other witnesses also swore to the prisoner's identity; but this did not deter the prisoner from calling his brother and another to prove an alibi, but they signally failed; for, the one being out of court while the other was giving his evidence, their statements were at variance, and the prisoner was fully committed for trial.

SEIZE HIM RIGHT.—Philip Moore, a shipmaster, aged nineteen, of 32, James-place, Ratcliff, was brought before Mr. Paget, charged with assaulting three women, and also committing an assault on John Perks, a police constable, in the execution of his duty.

Elizabeth Moss, of 6, John street, Sidney-square, Steyne, said she was passing along the Commercial-road the previous night, when the prisoner advanced in front of her and threw a wet and dirty sack across her face. It blinded her for some time, and the dirt and filth on the sack got into her eyes and mouth.

Elizabeth Brown, of 102, Nelson-street, Steyne, said the prisoner also threw the sack across her face and put her to considerable pain and inconvenience.

Perks said the prisoner dragged the sack in the wet gutter, and then forced it into the face of every woman he met. Three of the females came to the station-house and complained of the dirty and offensive conduct of the prisoner. He took the prisoner into custody and was assaulted in the same manner as the women. The prisoner was exceedingly violent, and made use of very bad language towards the females.

The prisoner, in defence, said that he and another man were larking and throwing the sack at each other, and it fell by accident on the females.

Mr. Paget said he did not believe the prisoner's story, but he did believe the witnesses. The prisoner was a dirty blackguard, and it was not to be tolerated that decent women were to be molested in the streets in such a gross manner. He sentenced the prisoner to be imprisoned for two months and kept to hard labour.

THE WRONG HOUSE.—Benjamin Bailey, twenty years of age, was brought before Mr. Burcham, charged with entering the dwelling-house of James Elliott, No. 10, Albert-terrace, London-road, for the purpose of committing a felony.

Anu Elliott, the wife of the prosecutor, said that about eight o'clock on the previous evening she was in the kitchen, when she heard a violent struggle in the passage. She proceeded there, and saw the prisoner struggling with her lodger and another gentleman, and on being told he had entered with a latch-key, she fetched a constable.

Samuel Penman, a cabinet-maker, residing at Camberwell, said that he called to see his friend, who lodged in the house of the last witness, about seven o'clock. While sitting in the front room without a light, he saw the prisoner and another man pass to and fro several times.

At last the prisoner came up the steps, tried the door, and returned to the other man. Witness watched them, and in a few minutes the prisoner came to the door again, and he heard a key put in the door. He then opened the parlour door ready to seize him, and in a second the door was unlocked and the prisoner entered the passage and shut the door behind him. As he was about to pass towards the place where the coats and hats hung, witness caught hold of him and asked him what he wanted there. He replied, "Oh! I have made a mistake. A man sent me for a box, and it must be the next house. He detained him until a constable came, when he gave him into custody."

Charles Adams, the lodger, said he was dressing himself in the back room when he heard a scuffle in the passage. He proceeded there and saw the prisoner struggling with last witness. The prisoner said he had made a mistake in the house—he ought to have gone into the lady's house next door.

A police-constable said that he was called into No. 10, Albert-terrace, about eight o'clock, when the prisoner was given into custody for entering the house with a latch-key. Witness asked him if he had one about him. He replied that he had not, but on searching him he found the latch-key produced, which easily opened the door.

The prisoner said a man met him in the street, and asked him to go into the house and fetch a box for him out of the passage.

Mr. Burcham sentenced him for three months' hard labour.

DREAD OF THE WORKHOUSE.—Mr. S. F. Langham, Deputy Coroner, held an inquest, the other evening, in Westminster Hospital, on the body of William Welsh, a gardener, aged seventy-one, who had committed suicide, on Tuesday morning last, by hanging himself, while an in-patient at the above-mentioned hospital.

It appeared that the deceased had been in the Wandsworth Union four months, being unable to work, and his wife, having broken her ribs, was scarcely able to support herself. He left the workhouse and went into the hospital, suffering from chest disease. Becoming convalescent, he was fearful of being discharged, and thereupon said he would not go again into the workhouse, as he

dreaded it. On Tuesday morning he was found apparently dead, lying on his left side, with the window sash-line round his neck, the line being attached to the iron railings outside the closet window. Deceased had wished himself dead, and said that he should like an application to be written to the guardians of the Wandsworth Union, as he dreaded returning.

Mr. Walter Moore, house surgeon, said he was called to the deceased and attended immediately. Life was just extinct. He tried resuscitation, but without effect. The cause of death was strangulation.

The jury returned a verdict of "Suicide by hanging while in a state of temporary insanity."

AN OLD OFFENCE.—James Smith, who during the last four years had been working in Wales, was brought up in custody, on Wednesday, before the county magistrates, charged with trespassing on lands belonging to the Right Hon. Lord Poltimore, in North Molton, four years ago.

The prisoner was remanded; and, on being subsequently brought before the Bench, was fined £2 and expenses.

MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.

ALTHOUGH the transactions in National Stocks have been very moderate, the Consol Market has ruled steadily as to price. The operations for the Account have been comparatively trifling. Consols, for Transfer, have been 89½; Ditto, for Time, 89½; 4½ and New Three per Cent, 87½. Bank Stock has marked 24 to 26. Exchequer bills have been firm, at par to 4 premium.

Indian Securities have been tolerably firm, but the quantity of stock disposed of has been limited. India Stock, 210 to 212; Ditto, Five per Cent, 105 to 107; Rupsie Paper, 101 to 102, and 106 to 108; India Bonds, 1-8, to 25½ premium.

Supply of money in the general Discount Market is considerably in excess of demand. The best commercial bills are, therefore, freely done at 4 per cent.

The imports of the precious metals have been extensive. Some large parcels of gold have, therefore, been sent into the Bank of England. The withdrawals have been rather heavy, chiefly for shipment to foreign ports.

The demand for silver is inactive. Bars are quoted at 60½d. to 61d.; and Mexican dollars, at 1½d. per ounce. Foreign Securities are firmer, and prices have improved—the principal advance being in Italian, Venezuelan, Greek, Spanish, and Mexican descriptions. Brazilian Five per Cent. have been done at 18½; Buenos Ayres Six per Cent, 81; Egyptian Seven per Cent, 84; Ditto, 186½, 7½ ex div.; Ditto, Debentures, 81; Mexican Three per Cent, 15½; Ditto, 186½, 11½; New Granada, 13½; Peruvian Five per Cent, 186½, 6½; Portuguese Three per Cent, 11½; Russian Three per Cent, 5½; Spanish Passive 2½; Ditto, 10½; Turkish Six per Cent, 186½, 2½; Ditto, Four per Cent, 186½, 2½; Venezuelan Six per Cent, 186½, 2½; Ditto, 186½, 2½ ex div.; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cent, 5½; and Italian Five per Cent, 186½, 5½.

American Securities have been in fair demand. United States Bonds, 60 ex coupon; Atlantic and Great Western Consolidated Mortgage Bonds, 42 ex coupon; 1½ Debentures, 65½ to 66½; Erie Railway Shares, 5; and Illinois Central, 78½.

Joint-stock Bank shares have been dealt in to a very moderate extent:—Alderman have been done at 18½; Australasian, 65 ex div.; British North America, 47½; Chartered of London, Australia, and China, 47½; City of London, 47½; Commercial Union, 47½; Colonial, 36½; Consolidated, 5½; English and Colonial, 31½; Imperial, 23½; Imperial London, 8½; Land Mortgage of India, 2½; London and County, 61½; London Joint-stock, 42½; London and Westminster, 94½; Mercantile, 41½; Metropolitan and Provincial, 104½; Midland, 74½; and Union of London, 45.

Colonial Government Securities of very moderate business has been transacted. Canada Six per Cent, 93; Ditto, Five per Cent, 77½; New South Wales Five per Cent, 88; New Zealand Five per Cent, 80½; and Victoria Six per Cent, 94½.

Maritime Securities have commanded very little attention. Anglo-American Telegraph, 15½; Ditto, Eight per Cent Preference, 55½; Anglo-Mexican Mint, 16½; Commercial Union Insurance, 54½; Credit Foncier, 31½; Ditto of Mauritius, 4½; Crystal Palace, 28½; Electric Telegraph, 137½; General Credit 31½; Imperial Land Company of Marseilles, 2½; Land Securities, 1½; London Financial, 9½; London County, 21½; London Joint-stock, 42½; London and Westminster, 94½; Panama, New Zealand, and Australian Royal Mail, 8½; Peninsular and Oriental Steamship, 63½; Great Central Gas, 13½; Imperial, 74½; London, 61½ ex div.; Westminster Chartered, 61½; Chelsea Waterworks, 24½; Liverpool and London Fire and Life, 8½; London, 45 ex div.; London Marine, 115½; and Marine, 90½.

In the Railway Share Market a very moderate business has been transacted. As regards prices, however, a fair degree of firmness is apparent, and in some instances an improvement has been established.

METROPOLITAN MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—The supplies of English wheat on sale here this week have been a little more, and the demand for better quality has been active, at an advance in the quotations of from 1d. to 1½d. per quarter. There has been a good business done in foreign wheat, the supply of which has been tolerably good, at 3s. per quarter more money. Floating cargo of grain have sold on higher terms. Fine barley has advanced 1s. per quarter. In the value of grinding and distilling sorts no change has taken place. The trade has been active, at an advance in the quotations of from 1d. to 1½d. per quarter. There has been a good business done in foreign wheat, the supply of which has been tolerably good, at 3s. per quarter more money. Floating cargo of grain have sold on higher terms. Fine barley has advanced 1s. per quarter. In the value of grinding and distilling sorts no change has taken place. The trade has been active, at an advance in the quotations of from 1d. to 1½d. per quarter. 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HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—The WINTER DRAMATIC SEASON will commence on MONDAY, NOV. 19, when will be produced a New Drama by Edmund Falconer.

MR. and MRS. GERMAN REED, with MR. JOHN PARRY, in their highly successful entertainment entitled **A YACHTING CRUISE**, to be followed by the **WEDDING BREAKFAST**, by Mr. John PARRY. Every Evening (except Saturday), at Eight; Saturday only at Three. **ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION**, 14, Regent-street. Unreserved Seats, 1s. 2s. 3s. 4s. 5s. 6s. 7s. 8s. 9s. 10s. 11s. 12s. 13s. 14s. 15s. 16s. 17s. 18s. 19s. 20s. 21s. 22s. 23s. 24s. 25s. 26s. 27s. 28s. 29s. 30s. 31s. 32s. 33s. 34s. 35s. 36s. 37s. 38s. 39s. 40s. 41s. 42s. 43s. 44s. 45s. 46s. 47s. 48s. 49s. 50s. 51s. 52s. 53s. 54s. 55s. 56s. 57s. 58s. 59s. 60s. 61s. 62s. 63s. 64s. 65s. 66s. 67s. 68s. 69s. 70s. 71s. 72s. 73s. 74s. 75s. 76s. 77s. 78s. 79s. 80s. 81s. 82s. 83s. 84s. 85s. 86s. 87s. 88s. 89s. 90s. 91s. 92s. 93s. 94s. 95s. 96s. 97s. 98s. 99s. 100s. 101s. 102s. 103s. 104s. 105s. 106s. 107s. 108s. 109s. 110s. 111s. 112s. 113s. 114s. 115s. 116s. 117s. 118s. 119s. 120s. 121s. 122s. 123s. 124s. 125s. 126s. 127s. 128s. 129s. 130s. 131s. 132s. 133s. 134s. 135s. 136s. 137s. 138s. 139s. 140s. 141s. 142s. 143s. 144s. 145s. 146s. 147s. 148s. 149s. 150s. 151s. 152s. 153s. 154s. 155s. 156s. 157s. 158s. 159s. 160s. 161s. 162s. 163s. 164s. 165s. 166s. 167s. 168s. 169s. 170s. 171s. 172s. 173s. 174s. 175s. 176s. 177s. 178s. 179s. 180s. 181s. 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